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'Change must happen slowly. The world could not handle a China torn apart from within.'

CHINA BLUES

BRavo to Michael Frater John Fraser for having the courage to have a bubble bursted by China's many Western-charged deniers ("Bash and excesses," May 11, April 7). All we are usually faced with our ranks is that China is just about the greatest miracle on earth, and if we just shut up and eat our they'll stop selling and enslaving people for what they think. And maybe, finally, they may use machine guns for crowd control. The sad, terrible truth is that a regime to rival Stalin's killing machine has managed to rise over the 21st century. We in the West must speak for all those under the thumb of the Communists and tell our governments to demand more from China. Stop ignoring the excesses of the world's worst human rights abuser, stop asking up to get preferential trade deals, and demand that China's lead producers stop buying their products.

Larry Pepe, Caledon East, Ont.

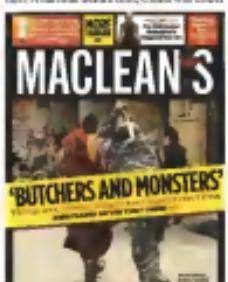
HERE IN CANADA we are notified by batch and roaster, but by egheads, a type that can reflect just as much pain and suffering. An arrogant bunch who know everything, but understand nothing, including the difference between change and progress. They're the elites among our business and political class who have decided it would be a good idea to pass trade with the butchers and monsters, putting our workforce of five men and women against each, leading to massive layoffs and a perception decline in domestic manufacturing. These folks have left us dependent on imports of shoddy, dangerous goods that give new meaning to the term cheap. When the \$49.99 DVD player you bought breaks down immediately after a few weeks, take a look inside. You will discover an important truth about made-in-China items: these bargains are usually filled with parts and components that look like they were created in house by tired, ill-educated and poorly paid workers under conditions of little or no quality control (which they were), and worse, were locally sourced, a cover for the practice of substituting inferior or counterfeited parts for those supplied by the companies whose brand name the products bear, the original having been diverted for use by the Chinese military.

From this writing, Canada has lost the tech

technology required to make TVs, telephones, washing machines, clothes dryers and many other things we used to manufacture here to ever, better standards.

Robert Stark, Ottawa

JON FRASER MAY be an expert on China, but he seems to have a very short memory. It's still within the lifetime of an individual that China was invaded by a ruthless enemy, was in the middle of a terrible civil war, and was ruled by endemic warlords. Millions died from bombing, bombing and gave



the church after eight-months of war (Japan, Russia, Britain, France, United States, Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungary) that ruthlessly put down the Boxer Rebellion, an anti-foreign, anti-imperialist uprising. And a lifetime before that, there was the First Opium War, fought between China and the British East India Company. The issue? To force China to import British opium.

China is a protectionist bastion and operated for 160 years that has finally started to set with discipline and self-interest. It has nothing to apologize to the West for and the West has a lot to apologize for to China.

Frank Philpott, Grand Falls, B.C.

I AM AFRAID we will not make a difference by being morally a witness. We have to stop helping the Chinese by supporting their economy and turning our eyes away from their shortcomings outside China. We have

to help create conditions in China that will increase the level of dissatisfaction and create more people protest. The way things are going, one day we will find that mea-sures are backfiring us. At that point, either we will believe the doves-themselves or there will be a war to end all wars.

David Johnson, Calgary

WHILE I DON'T AGREE with everything the Chinese government does, one has to keep in mind the vast disparity of incomes in the huge country as well as the tremendous differences between the old China, which still exists in much of the country, and the new China. Change there must happen slowly and surely. The world could not handle a China split from within. Any kind of ethnic cleansing would make Bosnia and Rwanda look like a school playground fight. Better to let the Chinese people come to the realization on their own that things are not exactly what they seem to be in their world, instead of upsetting the already shaky status quo. Is Canada at any other nation prepared to handle what would surely be the world's worst disaster should the Chinese people suddenly revolt on mass? There is no black and white anymore except in Fraser's mind.

Brian Mackay, North Vancouver, B.C.

HEARING AS A PERSON of faith, I would like to remind John Fraser that religion and politics should not mix. A religious leader such as the Dalai Lama is certainly entitled to his own political viewpoint, but he should not pursue politics since he is not a candidate for governing an autonomous state. We see certain policies in the Middle East who have alienated political opinions. If the Western media is not hypocritical, then the Dalai Lama and those Muslim clerics should be recognized with the same considerations. More importantly, if the Dalai Lama is the peaceful person I hope he is, why does he not come forth to denounce some of his radical followers who partake in the violent riot in Tibet? They have burned shops with innocent citizens trapped within and vandalized civil infrastructure out of desperation, but the end still does not justify the means. Fraser's article actually fails to highlight the Tibetan crisis, instead, he digresses into his own critique on ideology. His writing is judgmental and uninvolved in polarizing public statements

Maclean's should encourage constructive dialogue, not fuel the fire by splashing an inflammatory blanket statement on its front page.

Wendy Wong, Vancouver

BECAUSE OF RAPIDLY improving living standards, Chinese people's satisfaction with their government is higher than those in Western countries in spite of the lack of democracy, terrible pollution, concealed press and limited religious freedom. John Fraser's problem was he described a Maoist China that no longer exists. He is too ethnocentric. Modern Chinese are better off than our selves here in Canada in terms of their job satisfaction, drug and alcohol addiction, teenage runs, school graduation, and welfare dependency. Though honest, the Chinese's religious freedoms are higher than Chinese Christians. We should focus on the Dalai Lama. That's a sure way to win China, no Olympic boycott, and no racism. China has a long way to go but the Chinese are not monsters. Communist China will change because change is the only constant.

Br. K. A. Wei, Vancouver

A DOLL'S HOUSE

BOURG ARTICLE ABOUT return dolls must have the wrong headline. Surely "It's not a doll, it's a baby" (Society, April 1) can't be a complaint. You must have meant, "It's not a baby, it's adult!" And this story about us even says "a 'sophie' doll to 'fill a void'?" My God, tell me that isn't so! What about the void in the bodies of the 10,000 to 40,000 children who die everyday from disease and malnutrition? Are people so devoid of common sense they can't see that if they have an extra \$25 to \$50 to spend they have a responsibility to help those less fortunate than they are? What kind of mother raised these poor women up? Please, let's stop this madness.

Sandra Schwartz, Fort Frances, Ont.

CREEPY AND WEIRD, that's what I say about grown women who love little dolls. My wife spent time with real people, enjoying a visit to

Francesca Vassena, Alternately,

Little Current, Manitoulin Island, Ont.

KINGS OF THE HILL

DISMISSED: Canada's present grid coalition, Paul Martin gave all the way back to the Borden era for a comparison, completely ignoring the greatest period of coalition government in Canadian history. What's the point? It's actually not that bad. In 1911, in Ontario, on Feb. 1, ("Opinion," March 11) in 1913, the Liberals brought the Progressive Conservatives to majority status. A year later, Lester B. Pearson followed a minority government and won another minority government in



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1961 that lasted until 1968. Pearson made the grand coalition work in the face of the bombing and slightly eccentric John Diefenbaker and the brilliant scientist Thornton Douglas. Between '67 and '70, the Pearson government fashioned some of the most important legislation of the 20th century, including the new Canadian flag, unemployment insurance and much more. Pearson



IT TAKES ALL KINDS, not just bad mothers, to have a staggering effect on us, a reader says. *Alison Tolokoski*

used his great diplomatic skills to govern the country very well. I have been a Conservative all my life, but I have no qualms in saying he was the greatest prime minister that country has ever had. Talking about great conditions how could you do better with three of the greatest parkway marathons in history; Pearson, Diefenbaker and Douglasth? The Pearson era pale by comparison.

Al Wrigley, Kincardine, Ont.

MOTHERLOAD

WHAT QUALITIES Stephen Postler has to write a book about mother types ("Which mother raised you up?" Help, April 27) Obviously his publishers use a lucrative come-uppance numbers for everything that will you reasonably as a old game. I thought that whipping hand had been put to rest once and for all, based on useful research done by qualified psychologists. It turns out we live in a new era, when every Joe feels qualified to spout anything that crosses their. But not around, mothers are not that omnipotent there's fathers (present or absent), other significant adults and, very importantly, socio-cultural influences that affect us all. Rhys Harrold, St. John's, Nfld.

CHANGING THE WORLD

COLIN CAMPBELL's cold-water-on-the-face article on our long battle against climate

change is right on target ("What it will really take to stop global warming," Environment, April 7). Emissions continue to rise sharply in Canada and most of the world. Our little efforts to cut emissions are it's doing a. However, his discounting lot of what it will take to win the battle is missing an essential strategy: increasing fewer fossil fuels. Before anyone breathes that it'll be back-to-the-cave-dweller

we'd think that industry, mindless consumers, and politicians might share the blame. Andrew McGinnis, Toronto

EVOLIN CAMPBELL'S STORY, my gone too discovered is implying that environmental action only begins to take into account economic implications of climate change since the publication of Sir Nicholas Stern's report.

To the contrary, what I expressed was that it is mainstream economists who for the past 20 years ignored the economic consequences of environmental degradation, especially climate change. Only since Sir Nicholas Stern's report has they really begun to consider the economic consequences of climate. Environmentalists have, in fact, been proposing market-based solutions to go back to 1990 when the entire Canadian environmental community proposed that the Mulroney government adopt a carbon tax. Environmentalists have finally begun to see climate change in a way worth their consideration. This is well come, it's just unfortunate that it's taken this long.

Emile Abouraneh, Atmosphere and Energy Campaigner, Sierra Club of Canada, Ontario

IN PASSING

CHARLOTTE HANSON, 81, actress: She started as a male model before becoming synonymous with prestige epics of the 1990s and '00s such as *The Truman Show*, *Armageddon*, *Fire Man* (for which she won an Academy Award) and *The Agency* and *The Constant Gardener*. Last in life because a high-profile activist for the U.S. National Rifle Association.

BENNY PLUMPTRE, 99, economist: In the 1970s, she headed that price review. Pierre Trudeau's broad Price Review Board as well as the Anti-Inflation Board. She became a high-profile bureaucrat who preferred speaking to the public through the media rather than remaining cloistered in Ottawa.



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TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

The art of (selling) war

Now that the mission in Afghanistan
has been extended, Stephen Harper
has a new sales pitch. Will it be
enough to get the public on board?

Galen Weston Jr.—
he's no Dave Nichol

From WestJet employees to Mel
Lastman, the public's taste
is turned toward entrepreneurs.
What makes some work
and others flag?

A failing grade

On making Canada more globally
competitive, Ottawa earns poor marks
in the Conference Board of Canada's
latest report.

LATEST COMMENTS

Stephen Taylor

"Enthuse a few boy cottagers to show
(last) management that winning is
important... made other by bypassing
the importance of the bottom line."

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A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ELLEN PAGE

The Oscar-nominated star landed on the cover of the latest *Time* magazine, her new film *Smart People*, out on April 15. Else the indie girl, Page up of her fashion sense, "I'm a brat, really." On Tuesday, a second film soundtrack, with songs by Page, was released on iTunes. This is the start of the day question continues to keep up with Page, "she's making people talk by not giving definitive answers about her sexuality," wrote *The Village Voice*'s Michael Musto.

Good news

(Not) taking stock

Big business has been taking plenty of lumps in the press of late—particularly so, with the U.S. economy showing signs of recession. So, it's only appropriate that several CEOs are stepping up to share in the turmoil. So far, the do-it-yourself U.S. companies have stayed above the fray for their performance last year, and analysts expect those to come will follow suit. Canadian Edgar Desharnais Jr., CEO of Werner Marine Group, has stepped down amid \$1.6-million payout. Sure, critics will see these as hollow attempts to quell criticism of their performance—but at the very least, it suggests some CEOs understand the long-term costs of accepting a reward for poor results in such turbulent times.

Super Speedos

At last Sunday's Olympic trials in Montreal, the Canadian men's 400-m dash relay team shaved nearly three seconds off the previous national record—thunks, some say, to the new Speedos. Since the full body Lycra faster Speedos were unveiled in February, 18 world records have fallen, 16 of them broken by athletes donning the all-23L Speedo, swimming's international governing body, has approved the Lycra for Beijing as long as all athletes have access to them, but the Chinese team isn't buying into the hype. "A swimmer doesn't

swim faster in Speedos," says Michael Johnson, a top Canadian swimmer told reporters. Shut yourself!

Bridging divides

It was a good week for ministerial accountability in Ottawa, Ont., in which seven people died and thousands of others fell ill after drinking contaminated tap water. Canadians were shocked that such a thing could happen here, in a country that can hold a significant portion of the world's freshwater resources. And yet a shocking report in the latest issue of the

Bad news

Doesn't hold water

After the 2000 disaster in Whitecourt, Ont., in which seven people died and thousands of others fell ill after drinking contaminated tap water, Canadians were shocked that such a thing could happen here, in a country that can hold a significant portion of the world's freshwater resources. And yet a shocking report in the latest issue of the

Rotten by nature

Maybe there is a legitimate explanation for evil men like Hitler. According to a scientist in Jonathon, Ont., numbers and social behavior—from mass murder to corporate greed—is rooted in a single gene, ANK2. His need to test Robert Mugabe's DNA. Zimbabwe's dictator is an outlier as they come. More than a week after his country's election, in which he was awarded the loss, the 84-year-old still refused to release the results.

No scrub, no love

From the "rude was rape" school of social science, a new study has confirmed what many wives already knew: he's a jerk. According to researchers at the University of Michigan, the average woman spends an extra seven hours a week cleaning up after her man. To bad: men overall haven't figured out what the women know: that a husband who chores as a husband who scores. As per a study released this week, says the best way to coax your man into the bedroom is to spend a few minutes vacuuming the bedroom floor. ■

FACE OF THE WEEK



PICTURE: AL MIGHTY™. **Ellen Page** received an Oscar nomination for her role in *Smart People* at last Sunday's Juno ceremony in Calgary.

open on time. But a politician's world can return to focus, we learned. A video surfaced showing Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Tory MP Tim Lounsbury at a 1991 campaign party making crude and irrelevant comments. Both quickly and laughably apologized, though neither offered to jump off a bridge.

Canada's Medical Association journal finds that there are more than 1,750 boil-water advisories in effect in rural communities across Canada. There don't include the 200-plus advisories of First Nations reserves. Ontario leads the pack with 679, an Ontario. Colleagues there are 130 advisories in effect. Researchers warn

CAPITAL DIARY

MITCH RAPHAEL ON JUSTIN'S VELVET AND WHY GERARD JUST ISN'T AS FLEXIBLE AS RONA

BOAS COURTESY OF BELINDA

The Liberals welcomed their newest MP to Ottawa on "Last Tuesday" party. Bob Rae, Martha Hall Findlay and Joyce Murray were treated to speeches, grainy photos, deep-fried blinis, and some old-school cheese plates at Hootsy's pub. The day before, as Rae took on Cory in his seat, he faced Michael Ignatieff at a fund-raiser. Ignatieff called it a Judas kiss. But perhaps Rae was still in election mode after campaigning for months in his riding, which includes Canada's largest gay village. No one

gathered los that because the photographer's name was obscured and the TV cameras were focused elsewhere, "John's really off-camera," moralists all at the pub. Red-furher bears at the pub were provided courtesy of Michael Ignatieff's constituency office. They were left out from a previous event. The last Liberal leadership candidate without a seat, Gerard Kennedy, was also in attendance. He is one of the Liberal's most prominent nationalistic, when-his-is-up against Tory cabinet minister Rona Ambrose. Kennedy is confident he can take Ambrose in all except one area: yoga. Ambrose does power yoga and that has a leg up on Kennedy, who, confesses flexibility is not his strong point.

VOUS AVEZ VOTRE COUCHER AVEC FLAHERTY?
The do-it-yourself is "urban chic" at the Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee's Acropolymer, held in the Mayan Courtroom Cafe in Toronto's Harbourfront. But almost none of the attire seems spaced anything close to urban chic. Only a few tiny NPs and one Liberal were fried. Jeff



PICTURE: JESSIE HUMPHREY. **Mitch Raphael** (left) with Leader Stephen Harper; **Gerard Kennedy** (right) with Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, **John Baird**, **Larry MacKay**, **Joseph Valente** and **Justin Trudeau** (in the background). **Gerard Kennedy**; **Michael Ignatieff** (in inset).

Watson sported a funky great shirt and Patrick Brown had patches on jeans purchased in Thailand. Pierre Poilievre tried to tank it up by putting his collar up. Justin Trudeau wore a khaki green T-shirt under a sweater. Irons out for everyone else such as Scott Brison, Joe Volpe, and the culture minister who showed up. The lyrics "you're more couchier than me,"

DREDGEN STAYING ON LIBERAL TEAM

Ken Dryden's side Cory Fluke had a busy April 10th. Day fielded a bus full of media out for a joint news release, held a "Ken Dryden's 40th" GM presser with Maple Leaf. Also on April 10th, Day, Rodger Cawyer convened a meeting of his Liberal MP colleagues to end congratulations on his first messages to 10-year-old Yukon MP Larry Eggell. The first to send a message was Donalda Bell. Bell was shocked because his much younger wife is, in fact, pregnant, but he had not told anyone. He left the messages though and the next day announced the news in the Liberal caucus meeting. His colleague in the House, Markbyrd, recalls Dryden was talking on his BlackBerry and clutching behind his seat a while back during a vote. Eggell now learned it was Dryden's sole voting with some sound results.

THE GAMER MP'S PLAY

NPD MP Peter Stoffer has put the call out on his fellow MPs to give the party a tournament against the parliamentary pages as well as a game against theアルバウders, which only happens every three years or so. The response for the page match has been strong, but no one has signed up for theアルバウders' game. Stoffer tried to be diplomatic, noting theアルバウders' game is not until June, while the page match is in May. Another factor might be artwork. The pages always get dressed, whereas last time the MPs played theアルバウders "they looked out," admits Stoffer. "It was like 7-1."

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ANDREW COYNE

The Mulroney-Schreiber affair long ago ceased to be about Mulroney, or Schreiber—or Airbus, for that matter. As the years passed—yearned RCMP but gave, journalists indiffer ent, and historians pre-occupied, years, even after we knew that the former prime minister of Canada was taking hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash from a man who boasts of his success at bribing politicians—and as the ethics committee fumbled as way through its own farce of closed hearings, it became apparent that there was really only one question that deserved an answer: we’re not real?

It is a seeming oxymoron, with a real justice system and a functioning police force and the sorts of institutions of checks and balances that can provide some assurance to the tax paying public that they are not being fleeced blind. Or is it just the Third World out there? Is it really possible that a clutch of Germans and Americans and their political cronies could have pocketed millions of dollars through this country through that meek-spirited spook, Karl-Heinz Schreiber, that they could have succeeded in purest robbing billions of dollars in government business but in taking down a trusted party leader, and to *our* usual be held to account?

Well, now we have our answer: yes. It is possible. Or perhaps I should say no. Where not a serious country. With the final report of the Prime Minister’s independent adviser, David Johnston, landing just 18 hours after the report of the ethics committee on which it was supposedly based, it is now clear: we are never going to get to the bottom of this. There’s never going to be a real inquiry into this business—only a premed intent.

One expected the ethics committee to be it ends, though not quite such endorse rance-giving—a high school teacher have done better in a couple of hours on Google—as it

proved to be. The committee makes just one recommendation: that the promised public inquiry should be given “a broad mandate.” Just so. But it backs it up with equally tepid analysis, other than to say that “a politically charged inquiry... should not be limited in scope.” It should be broad, because it should not be narrow. Thank you.

So when professor Johnston concluded that, although he had had time to alter the committee’s report, he nonetheless had “an adequate opportunity to review it,” it had to fail him there. The rest of his report, though, is a different matter. Like his first effort, of which the second is largely a rehash, it simply leaves one shocked—but slightly reassured, the lesson of importance there, the actual lapsus judgmenti—the mere fact that he had had to expose so much more of his

The first option he indeed over-whelmingly, in the assertion that there was

The idea any government, let alone this one, would hold secret hearings is breathtaking



as need for a broad based inquiry—now that would tell those same Mulroney-Schreiber deniers in the context of Schreiber’s remarkable, soaring streak in the government procurement game, of his funding of the Frank Clark campaign at the 1993 Conservative leadership review, of the millions in cash he allegedly paid to his “Canadian friends”—because the RCMP had already investigated these matters thoroughly, indeed for “eight years.” It was, he said, “well-timed ground.”

But there was no extensive, eight year RCMP investigation. The force did not pick up the wiretap in 1995, seven years after the Airbus contract was signed. It did not interview Schreiber until 1999. It did not gain access to his bank records, after the botched 1999 letter of request to the Swiss authorities, until 2000. The lead investigator was reassigned in mid-case. And, contrary to

repeated assertions, they did not know about the cash payments. They heard rumours, nothing more. They only finally learned of their existence when they were re-joined at the Globe and Mail in the fall of 2009. That was no months after they’d shut down the investigation.

The second report is—several new layers in this bizarre tableau. Johnston does not appear especially perturbed by the portfolio of interests to have compromised Mulroney’s fantastically safe of his international dealings on behalf of Bear Head Industries—offering armoured vehicles that hadn’t been made in a factory that was never built with federal funding that he claims to have contributed to countries that didn’t want them, who were in any case ineligible under legislation he passed. Nor is the revelation that several of Mulroney’s close associates were paid substantial sums for lobbying the Mulroney gov-

ernment, even after he was no longer

ernment, years, even after we knew that the former prime minister of Canada was taking hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash from a man who boasts of his success at bribing politicians—and as the ethics committee fumbled as way through its own farce of closed hearings, it became apparent that there was really only one question that deserved an answer: we’re not real?

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Silly, sillier, silliest: the absurd politics of the Games



ANDREW POTTER

Well, another Olympiad, another round of political posturing of one sort or another. This probably isn't what the Chinese were hoping for when they were awarded the 2008 Summer Games, but by the time the magazine arrives on newsstands, the Olympic torch relay may well have been completely derailed.

The torch was scheduled to arrive in San Francisco on Wednesday, an event that promised to be even more raucous than the relay in London (where 37 people were arrested) and Paris, where a few dozen more were arrested and thousands of anti-Chinese demonstrators forced officials to cancel the last segment of the race.

No, certainly not what the Chinese were hoping for. But then the less they could have expected, given that China's bid for the 2008 Games was fraught with political calculations on all sides. For the Chinese, winning the Games was supposed to be a sign of its acceptance by the international community. For the IOC and the delegates from the West who voted to bring the Games to Beijing, the Games were to serve as a wedge that would crack China open, and encourage it to get its act together on human rights.

The problems that arise are exactly opposite: the West is worried the Games as an affirmation of its policies, while the West gave the Games because we thought that would motivate China to change. It does not seem to have occurred to anyone at the time that this was a recipe for serious conflict, that the north-south relay disruptions are merely the opening skirmishes. The only question then is whether revision to the policies has been more convincing than the athletes, the politicians, or the IOC itself?

Let's start with the athletes, whose attitude was between colonialism and self-blame with self-interest. The line that has

emerged is that a boycott would be wrong because—in the words of IOC president Jacques Rogge—it would penalize "innocent athletes." *Indeed.*

In a recent interview with the *Ottawa Citizen*, insipid Sue Holroyd described her despair when she learned that Canada would be boycotting the Moscow Olympics in 1980, where she was scheduled to be Canada's flag-bearer for the opening ceremonies. After insisting that the athletes could have made

Meanwhile, the Canadian government is still considering a full boycott, as are the Germans, the French, and the Americans.

But the race to take a stand against China was hard when they were awarded the Games in 2001. China's position toward Tibet or on human rights has not essentially changed over the past seven years, and if Canada had problems with it, we should have immediately announced that we would refuse to participate. By wavering now, we send a signal to the protesters that they are on the right track; all they need to do is keep ratcheting up the pressure, and then Canada will budge.

Finally, there's the IOC itself, which does not seem to grasp the essential contradiction at the heart of the Olympic movement. That contradiction was beautifully expressed by IOC president Rogge on Monday, as he reacted to the scolding of the Chinese relay by expressing both his admiration about China's behavior in Tibet and his belief that the protesters were not in the Olympic spirit. "The Intern-



Harper won't attend the opening ceremony for 'personal reasons.' How disingenuous.

a stronger statement by going to Moscow and showing what "this chaos" was all about, Holroyd added. "The majority of athletes want to go as athletes and don't have political statements to make. It's others who are making a political event, not the athletes, so why punish the athletes?"

Right. So the athletes are political pawns, except when they're not.

Look, the Olympic Games have always had a political agenda. It may be true, as the *Wall Street Journal's* recent editorial published during the 2006 Torino Games, that the chief appeal of the Olympics is that, of all the pony-race fought between the forces of freedom and the forces of totalitarianism, synchronized diving and rhythmic gymnastics are probably the most banal way to score points. But that does not alter the fact that Olympic athletes are ideological foot soldiers. Asking "why punish the athletes?" is as offbeat as asking why soldiers are always the ones who get killed in battles.

Then there are the politicians. For their disingenuousness, we'll hand to much Stephen Harper, who has already announced that while he won't be attending the opening ceremony in Beijing, it's a "personal decision."

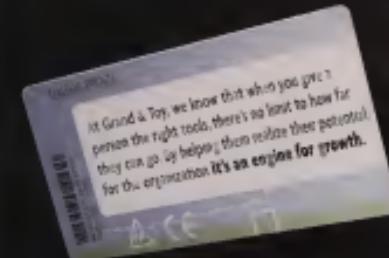
International Olympic Committee has expressed serious concern and calls for a rapid, peaceful resolution in Tibet, Rogge and his top-tier Western partners, he added, "for whatever reason," are "not compatible with the values of the torch relay or the Olympic Games."

But just what values is Rogge talking about? The "brotherhood of man" principles of the Olympic movement sound like hogwash if it were written by a European Union functionary, but it has had to square that with all the uniforms, flag-waving and anthem playing, which (European people have pointed out over the years) is more *Triumph of the Will* than it is *Kinshasa* anyway.

This leaves us with the protesters, who are the only ones involved under no illusions as to what is going on. The international protest movement has been working for this for seven years, biding its time and quietly organizing. Now that the moment has arrived, they have declared all-out war on the Chinese regime, and there will be no let up until the flames are extinguished in Beijing on Aug. 24. ■

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'The game can drive you crazy. It gives a fleeting look at what you possibly could achieve. And the next minute it's gone.'

DAVID LEADBETTER TALKS TO MICHAEL FRISCOLANTI ABOUT TEACHING PRESIDENTS, PROS, AND THE 'INSTRUCTIONALLY CHALLENGED'

Known simply as "the golf guru," David Leadbetter has spent a lifetime teaching who people to play (or at least try to play) thehurst game ever invented. Some of the world's top golfers—Floyd Littleton, Tom Watson, and the late great phenom, Payne Stewart—were his students. A prokennex for Callaway Golf, Leadbetter consults and operates more than two dozen instructional schools around the world, including a state-of-the-art facility in Whistler, B.C.

Doesn't matter with the most advanced equipment, who can really teach it to be a good golfer?

As Leadbetter says, "It's probably just one of the many hundreds of thousands of people that play that game, that really worth it on TV and say, 'Wow, these guys make it look so easy.' And I still know that the golf swing is very precise movement, and in order to produce power and consistency, there's a lot of factors that go into it. First of all, you have to have a lot of athletic ability, great-hand-eye coordination, and having said that, even with those qualities you have to work at the game. It takes a lot of practice, and what these great players are able to do through all the practicing and playing that they do is build a reputation. And that's what many golfers aren't able to do."

Q) Is that the big thing that distinguishes the teacher from the pro? Is it all about time?

As obviously the talent level comes into it to a large extent, but you've got to put the

time in. You see all these pros on TV being these magical beaker shots and chip shots, but these guys have practiced them for hours. So where you get the average golfer who doesn't have any time to practice and just comes out onto the golf course, it's really not surprising that people find this game difficult. So it's kind of anything, if you put a little time in you get a lot out of it."

Q) People often refer to you as "the golf guru." Is that a title you ever get tired of?

It's a nice accolade. I've heard this for a long time with all sorts of different levels of players, but the fact of the matter is I'm still learning. That's the great thing about it. There's so much to learn about the mind and how it works, and now there's lots of studies in neurobiology to see how we can help people. We're in a neurologically advanced age and we're sort of studying and discussing every thing we look at. But the danger with golf is that we over-think and get into the old syndrome of "paralysis through analysis."

Q) Very true. So it's really that bad, then, for us to over-think our golf swing and say, "Forget this, I'm going to swing the driver as hard as I can and see what happens?"

A) A lot of people do it themselves by instinct, and in the reason why you take the old lesson, the reason why you go to a pro to practice, is so when you get out on the golf course your thought process should be "Okay, I'm just going to hit the ball like the target." You can stand up there, end up in a knot about doing this and doing that,

because you can't play golf like that.

Q) You've written eight books, we have these kinds of other golf books, and we have *Golf Digest* magazine and all the other golf magazine out there. How can you possibly get through all that information?

A) The volume of material out there is just ridiculous—just to get that first white ball in the hole. You can only really get instructed by all the material. In the end, if you want to play good golf you've got to learn it simple, and that's why there's nothing better than having one on one lesson. Yeah, you might get the add rip from a magazine and that can help, but generally speaking it's best to go with someone who obviously knows what they're talking about. But golfers are jaded—they are always looking for something that they think is going to help them.

Q) When you look back at your career and all that you've accomplished, is it better to know that you've such a great teacher, but never succeeded as a professional player?

As if I had my mother, absolutely! I'd rather be a world-class player than a world-class teacher. When I was younger displaying golf I didn't think, "Well, I want to be a great teacher." I just wanted to get out and play, but you realize that there's only a couple real few players that are going to be successful. The number of people that play golf around the world and the number of people that make a living out of it are few and far between. The dream game can't come true, you know?

PHOTOGRAPH BY GUY LAWRENCE

THIS AD HAS A TYPO IN IT. SHOULD WE MAKE THE WRITER PAY TO REPRINT THE ENTIRE NEWSPAPER?



Joint and several liability is an issue because it drives legal costs as more parties as possible to lawsuits, which increases costs and complexity. It makes the providers of business advice and services, financial professionals such as accountants, auditors and others, liable for unquantifiable risks if their client suffers a business reversal and is sued. It puts pressure on governments, which often are named as minor parties in lawsuits because plaintiffs are seeking out "deep pockets."

With all this liability risk, insurance costs are pressured upward and the increase is being passed on to the public. In some cases, risk avoidance drives companies to turn down business or, in the case of financial institutions, focus their effort on the safer types of business.

Ontario is paying the price for having a liability regime that is completely inappropriate for business, resulting in both higher costs and a more risk-averse environment. Ultimately, that means lost opportunities, slower growth, constrained investment and fewer jobs.

By contrast, many neighbouring U.S. states (and many of our international trading partners) are moving to a system called "proportionate liability" where parties are responsible for their share of the loss—but nothing more. This puts Ontario businesses at a competitive disadvantage.

So let's fix our liability laws and give Ontario companies a chance to grow, and prosper, in Canada.

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Q Why does this game drive so many crazy? **A** Because it tempts us, it gives a fleeting look at what you possibly could achieve. And yet the next minute it's gone. You're always trying to hope that maybe I can get first reading back. And this applies for even the star players: some of the best players in the world are saying, "It just doesn't feel right today, my rhythm's not right, there's just something a wrong."

Q You must get annoyed about every day it's stronger asking for advice?

A And in the most strange places, too. We mentors, the guy beside me will say, "Hey, aren't you David Leadbetter? Can you help me with my grip?" I say, "Well, not right now, but yeah." It's like, though. People think that maybe I have the answer, and I sort of say, "Well, I do have the secret, but I only let it out occasionally—and for the right price."

Q What is the right price, David?

A Well, I'm a bit like Robin Hood because I rob from the rich to give to the poor. I've got a lot of students around the world, close to 50, but I don't have the time to be in one location. So I give instruction on limited basis, and my fee is \$16,000 a day. It's expensive, absolutely, but I spend a lot of time with that person. On the other hand, I've got a lot of kids or young pros who can't afford it and I'll basically work with them for nothing, so, you know, it just depends.

Q And someone willing to pay \$16,000 for your cost already can afford \$16,000.

A Exactly.

Q Does your career pressure on you when you're just trying to have a nice, fun round of golf with friends? Do you feel as though you have to live every shot perfectly because that's what people would expect?

A It does. The fact is everybody expects you to be like Tiger Woods, and you think, "Jesus." But it's the old saying, "Those that can, do." Those that can't, teach."

Q Is that true?

A To some extent, it's sort of a joke, really, but there are some very fine players who've never fulfilled their potential and teach, and there's also some very fine players who play for a living and wouldn't touch words about because they can't communicate. So it's definitely a different branch of the profession.

Q Why Were Canadian men recognizable golfers? The whole country celebrated its 2005 victory at the Masters. But it seems like we may have peaked. Do you think the last 10 years is another golden year for golf?

A As I'm definitely not that mentality. I feel very serious and I feel very focused. You might say maybe he's a bit limited from a physical

standpoint—he's not that guy—but he has a decent length and he's an excellent wedge player. But unfortunately he's living in the age of Tiger Woods, and so everybody is sort of seeking Justice. With Tiger, it's easier. He's getting better and better every year and he wins an ultimatum weakness.

Q Has there ever been an athlete like Tiger, who isn't as tall as his competitor?

A No. He looks like everybody else in boy. There is some special trait that he has I don't know exactly what it is. He is incredible in the way that he's able to do things under pressure. He was born for this.

Q How much finer Tiger is than other been given from technology than players like Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer just isn't there! It's amazing that day clubs and the full pros are involved, and that they actually do want to improve, and that golf is becoming a lot more like, say, Formula One racing.

A I'll tell you what, if Tiger was using technology he'd win. Now, technology has helped to get things more precise. A lot of younger players, their technique has changed a lot since from the old days because now they're going to the ball so much in order because the clubs are more stable and more forgiving. It's not just equipment part of it. So Tiger has certainly benefited from technology, but he's the sort of player that, technology at no technology, he would have been great.

Q But are you comfortable with all the improvements that have been made to the equipment? Are the clubs in advance of now that the integrity of the game has suffered?

A You could say they're making golf courses shorter, but how do you stop progress? People would still be driving around in on drivers cars or something, you know? Besides, as golf is a difficult game? The standard of golf isn't really improved to say great, either. I mean, yes, they're more consistent and they're probably more forgiving, but golf is still very much a technique-oriented game.

Q Why can't you handle the players on the PGA Tour? Golfers complain when a spectator comes up to them during a tournament, yet a baseball player has to endure all kinds of noise and crap for a lot of years as a lower pitch.

A Traditionally, golf has always been a sport where you play in silence, and there's etiquette involved, and there's respect involved, and personally I think that's nice. I think it's a nice link to the past that's here. This is a place where you haven't got golfophiles barking and screaming. Golf's a gentleman's sport, and I think that's the way it should be.

Q Are some people simply unattractive because their golf game is just so bad?

A As weird as the odd person who, you know,

of "interactionally challenged." There are some people who have quirky ways, who have created habits through the years that are very difficult to change. And, yeah, there are people who literally you could say, "Well, when, come on, it's your game, because it's a much larger surface."

Q Maybe they could work as caddies?

A Right, exactly.

A How would you feel?

Q Do you do your research before you go to a golf course or will you do something else?

A (Laughs) I'll always be involved in golf to some extent. It's a great sport, and let's face it, it's allowed me to travel to fantastic cities, to great people, to meet wonderful people I wouldn't otherwise encounter without my taught partners, genuine masters, kings and movie stars—so that's the beauty of the



Golfers are junkies—always looking for something that they think is going to help them'

sport. It does bring all sorts of people together, all walks of life, all sorts of persuasions and all sorts of beliefs. You ever get out and about in North Korea, the ruler of North Korea.

Q Kim Jong-il? He's a golfer?

A They've got one golf course in North Korea, and he was invited to shoot, for 18 holes, something like \$10,000 for five holes-in-one! I don't think anybody would dare disagree with that.

Q Do you currently still need any tips from him?

A No, not with that analogy! ■

plane Dion has fallen and he can't get up. Why? In conversations with several senior Liberals, many of whom still have roles in the party hierarchy or the election organization and did not want to be quoted, several reasons come to mind. There is the leader's difficulty explaining himself in other languages; it cannot be his heavily accented English that is hurting him among francophone Quebecers.

"He doesn't know what he doesn't know," one long-standing Dion reporter said. "He won't give a stump speech. He had a good speech a while ago about poverty. Caucuses and so forth. 'All right, give that speech 30 times across the country!' He wouldn't do that. He said, 'My views on poverty are known!'"

Dion's current communications director, Leslie Sturzman, is his third in six months and will depart this summer on maternity leave. He has publicly lamented the kind of negative ads with which the Conservatives continue to pounce on him as "Not A Leader" this party, which raised a third as much money in 2007 as the Harper Conservatives did, has little budget to run any kind of advertising at all. "I told him we should run an ad that says three changes about Harper," one adviser said. "He wanted to take us into Iraq, he wanted to participate in George W. Bush's missile defense plan given he wants to keep our soldiers in Afghanistan. This is when I thought we were going to be against extending the mission. That wouldn't be unoriginal. It would be purely factual. And it would force Harper for a year to come. Dion wouldn't do it."

There is division in building an organization, a challenge made all the more daunting by the fragility of the party he inherited. Weeks after he became leader he sent out a restored version of his organization with a broadening of its constituency committees, regional bodies, radiostations and a biweekly e-newsletter. Long-standing staffers from Dion's days as a cabinet minister angrily shook their heads when asked about it. Campaign structures are sharp, a bad idea in politics; they're necessary points of friction, they multiply opportunities for leaks to the press and they can never work exactly. Dion from then later requires first a people who thought they had been given an important responsibility. But Dion believed his big task after the Morris Chretien was to build bridges, and he had more bridges than the world has ever seen.

What is most striking is that even people who worked closely with Dion and are working hard toward Liberal victory at the next election never praise the leader's judgment in private. Instead they speak, with greater or lesser optimism, about whether he can be brought along, like a bright but



WHEN HE WAS IN THE CHRÉTIEN CABINET, DION SAW POLITICS AS THE CURIOUS BUSINESS OF PEOPLE LESS SERIOUS THAN HE

early damaged trade.

This is the student contrast with the way Conservatives used to talk about Harper, during the difficult days before the 2006 election. Back then Harper lagged in the polls, he had lost one party yahoo talking publicly on a website for his removal, and the press gallery had written him off. But his concern was with them: "You should see the way he runs the caucus meetings," MPs used to say.

This seems to be a result of both attitude and action. Dion has made a series of mistakes. Last year, Lawrence MacAulay, a long-time cabinet minister, and Herb McIvor, a veteran Liberal organizer, urged Dion to make his former justice minister Martin Cauchon back into politics to run in the by-election in Carleton's old Ottawa Centre riding. Dion refused, pointing to his own record as a MP in 1986, to lead his parliamentary forces in his home province.

As national election co-chair, Dion named

Mark Mironson, a Vancouver who ran his campaign for leadership, and Nancy Gurd,

a one-time candidate with very little profile in Quebec. Months after it became obvious

that the party's campaign was supposed to run by noon on the west side of the Rockies and a soon-to-emerge Liberal could not pick out of a poem lineup, Dion added a third adviser, Senator Don Smith, who used to run Jean Chretien's Ontario campaign. Liberals say he took his first more direct role in Ontario in 2006 than in every other province put together, and Smith's efforts are seen as crucial if the party is to gain any ground.

So Dion's actions have not always helped the party's fortunes. Perhaps that is because, during his long years in Chretien's cabinet, he seemed to view politics in the evenhandedness of people least serious than he. In 1996, when he had been a minister for only a few months, he travelled to Wellington to deliver a speech. At a news conference later, reporters asked him whether life in politics held any surprises for a political voter. "The only surprise is how unassured I am," he said.

He has come to realize a formidable leader. Starting with little knowledge of the topic in 1996, he entered government in 1998 as one of the world's foremost experts on international law as it relates to terrorism. In Chretien

supporters speak of Dion as if he were "a bright but easily distractible student."

But the government he showed little public interest in the environment. But as Dion's he filtered experts with his memory of the topic.

But he has to view a topic as world managing, and his children for whom small politics distract. Christians often have tips, only he is told he won't suggest "old-style politics" to be continued to flourish in Quebec, his adviser says because desperate for any way to shake up perceptions of Dion there. A Quebec government appointed a panel on "irresponsible environmentalism," the truly business of financing Canadian traditions with the preferences of immigrant groups when they dover, offered a choice. Some Liberals wanted Dion to address the panel and deliver a fiery pitch for diversity and tolerance. He wouldn't hear of it. As a federal politician, he didn't want to bow in on a provincial process. As so often with Dion, the decision was again split as it was guaranteed not to improve his reputation.

The Liberals' inaction, failing to keep him here so that voters would choose him to become the second minority "You can make a case for Doug," a senior Liberal says, adding, "People haven't exactly warmed to Harper." This is the case of Liberals' hope, that Harper's policies and old style make him vulnerable.

But in a string of by-elections the Liberals have failed a series of expectations rather than exceeding them. And history suggests they expect Harper's popularity to quickly drop three times in by-elections a leader comes from opposition to win only one election before losing the next. In fact, the hope Harper will do, for Clark, R.B. Bennett, Alexander Mackenzie. Every election the new prime minister was able to hold his advantage against challengers. The last Dion team would have been hard for any Liberal leader.

It would be harder because Dion remains an fighter with one hand behind his back. How can the election be a referendum on Harper if longer runs a barrage of ads saying Dion is weak, while Dion runs ads saying he's not weak?

The unassured, indecisive opposition and the unconvincing vagueness of the Liberal party could not be the skills of a wily strategist with a deep well of loyalty to draw on. Dion leads the best job without the party base and has regarded strategy as something to be avoided, not learned. Chretien, Martin and Dion's leadership approaches learned in never a grandiose way from him. But the challenge he faces now is far greater than any before it. And his case is growing there. ■

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RIGHTEOUS CRUSADER OR CIVIL RIGHTS MENACE?

Richard Warman says he's fighting hate. Critics say free speech is the real victim.

BY CHARLIE GILLES

It's anわけous moment on the sun-dappled floor of a nondescript building in Ottawa: the son of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal says he's less than halfway through his day. Warman, 50, is seated at a table in the room, surrounded by reporters, bloggers and members of the public. Enclosed security pull-downs for a change to sit in the gallery. Reputed racists—nearly allergic to the intrusiveness of government control—seemly downing their egos to spread hints for the metal detecting winds. This, after all, was their long-awaited chance to sit in a room shadowed by Dean Stacey, an investigator from the Canadian Human Rights Commission, who due for a grilling over his apparent failure of proceedings before a recent round of hearings. But the tribunal's chairman, Justice Richard Warman, the otherwise complaisant new legal guardian, has more: Marc Léonard has had to read his hearing “face to face” for the third time. From these proceedings for the tenth straight day, and from, whence originates the Canadian Association for Free Expression, has unanswered in the Lemire case: The tribunal’s decision to officially write it down. Lemire’s dozen-headed supporters in the gallery grinned their triumphs.

Warman had told the press he was swaying him but he probably take a pass on this one.

For the sort of people who blame their

problems on Jewish cabals and the government commissions empowered to project them, the son of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal was out to less than sympathy. But something—or rather, someone—wasn’t transpiring. No sooner had the proceedings begun than Paul Fleeter, a former supporter of Holocaust denier Lynn Zabel, rose to bewail the absence of Richard Warman, the otherwise complaisant new legal guardian, has more: Marc Léonard had to read his hearing “face to face” for the third time. From these proceedings for the tenth straight day, and from, whence originates the Canadian Association for Free Expression, has unanswered in the Lemire case: The tribunal’s decision to officially write it down. Lemire’s dozen-headed supporters in the gallery grinned their triumphs.

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The evident showy smugness suggested

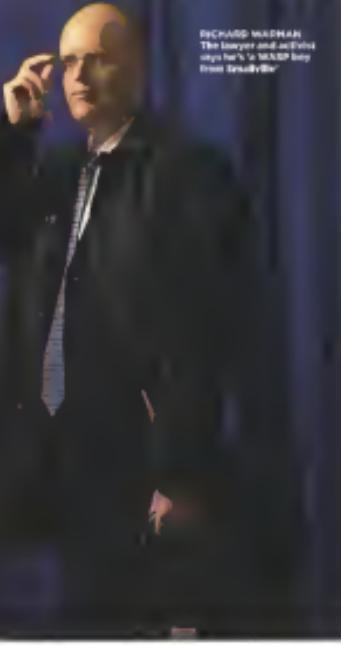
him men while posing as a fellow crusader had been discredited in written submissions weeks before the session, he’d said, and the question of investigative techniques had little to do with his case against Lemire. Besides which, he had no intention of giving his enemies the satisfaction of confronting him in some sort of arena—in French had once done with gifts and pleasantries—unless the commission offices in Ottawa.

Still, it felt a bit like *The Tempest* without Prospero. For weeks, the lawyer and activist involved with creating a here-a-new-world where human rights investigators aren’t certain of what’s right or wrong had been supporting the Lemire case. The tribunal’s decision to officially write it down. Lemire’s dozen-headed supporters in the gallery grinned their triumphs.

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RICHARD WARMAN
The lawyer and activist says he's "a NO-100% Jew
from Beaverton."



to “expose” people to hatred or contempt based on race, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation. He has won 10 of those cases, while two are still pending—a success rate that his supporters say proves his effectiveness. (The targets were anything but the most kind of white supremacists, they say, but, whoa, who does he win *now*?)

But to others, the almost-dark quality to Warman’s Section 13 cases are a cause for worry, symbolizing the drift of human rights commissions into the boggy territory of never-investigation and speech control. They can come dispersed two weeks ago with revelations that, for a time, Warman was writing back as a complainant and an investigator at the commission. Even after he left in 2004, he seemed to enjoy easy access to commission offices, stepping by to chat with staff or get documents printed. “Having [de]fenders at a bar, I frankly can’t believe what’s been happening behind the scenes,” says Keith Martin, a Liberal MP who has tabled a motion for the repeal of Section 13(1). “You have a large number of the complainants about hate speech being filed by one person, and the several accuse [sic] in their court, such as the assumption of intent, don’t apply at the tribunal.” Of the fact Warman and his agents were going online undercover, Martin sighs simply: “That’s appalling.”

His reaction comes on the heels of warnings that the commission has overwhelmed its original mandate. A few weeks before the Lemire hearing, Alan Bonney, one of the architects of rights commissions as we know them in Canada, called for Section 13 to be scrapped, noting its recent use against Michael Ignatieff that complained Ignatieff was anti-Semitic. “It just never occurred to any body that an investigator we’re struggling to control would be used against the expression of first speech,” he said.

Until now, Warman has been content to let this sort of criticism slide, deftly referencing his own or the lettering his wife writes on the wall (when *National Post* columnist Jocelyn Léger suggested in print that Warman, working integrally, paid a local artist to paint a “fucking” and a “c*” he “urged a bold notice on the paper, later telling MacLean’s, “I had absolutely nothing to do with it.”) But his past has caught a re-action. But with critics of human rights bodies no longer the exclusive domain of the kowtow right, a now-routine has begun to unfold in a Warman’s share of the system draws an awesome amount of attention and ire. In high court—therein their practice, their support and, ultimately, whether they have any business telling Canadians what they can or cannot say.

What stirs you first in the laugh It springs from the chest, yet registers as a kind of cartoonish yodel—ascend rendered all the more weird if you know the expansion of an ear. As with many legal complainants, Warman comes across on paper as a shrubbery acid. But in person, he is all charm and mockery, and taught the laughman an Mark Halton, a New York City man who runs a website dedicated to discrediting Warman and who, apparently enough, has a day job in pest control. “The significance of this is lost on me,” says Warman. “It’s like being insulted by the Orlon man.”

We sat at D’Acy McGee’s, a Parkdale eatery with a weird hole, where Warman has arrived in a dark coat with a copy of Romeo Dallaire’s book *Shake Hands with the Devil* tucked under his arm. It was a nice, quiet respite from the noise as he set them up—a

THE INTERNET GAVE WARMAN A BATTLEFIELD. HE'D PRETEND TO BE A SYMPATHIZER.



MARC LÉONARD On his way to the Canadian Human Rights Commission in Ottawa

unchecked dissemination of hatred can quickly morph into something like the 1995 Rwandan genocide.

But that isn’t Warman, and Warman isn’t here to talk history. He is angry at MacLean’s columnist Mark Sayers, who has described the federal human rights apparatus in print as Warman’s “personal lightning.” And he’s went for his tally. In one more online thread, a U.S.-based anti-Semitic calling him self “Bill” Warman’s “a fucking human rights defensor decapitating Warman with a shotgun blast through the mouth (in the nose, Warman is identified as “Warman”);” Postings on the same site revealed Warman’s address and showed his home with a Google satellite map. “I generally like being abused,” he says. “But even I have my limits.” And so here are questions. Questions will be erased, answers supplied in writing, even with those answers, Warman goes deeper

and yet vague on parts of his back story, keeping references to his family, hometown and age (late 40s) generic, and sketching published reports that he is now working at the Department of National Defence. He describes himself as a “WASP boy from Stouffville, Ontario,” who from a young age was moved by the size of his relatives and others around the world made to end Warman, and who took strong interest in anti-social solvent at university. His mother married again in 1993, he says, when he was living in Toronto and the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal was born by the notorious Heritage Front. “There was a won- derful lawyer there named Eddie Taylor from the human rights commission,” Warman recalls wistfully. “He looked like the one Nazi group all over the courtroom.”

Endowed with a sense of justice, Warman studied cases involving hate propagand

or recent white supremacist rallies in Calgary or Edmonton. Warman grouped early on the Internet to provide both a virtual community hub for that people and a place for investigators to find them, says Leo Fidell, director of national affairs with the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies. More importantly, he recognized the advantage of Section 11 of the Canadian Human Rights Act over the hate propaganda provision in the Criminal Code, which requires a much stiffer standard of proof. Concerned in the late 1990s as a means of saving federal producers over concerns that it could restrict racist propaganda, the law's broad language later amended to include the Web—put the actual consequences of hate-mongers within the reach of authorities, for the first time. "What Warman did was invent the use of the existing legal levers to do something," says Michael Gert, a University of Ottawa

professor and an expert in law as it relates to cyberspace. "The law provides relatively easy access to an aggressive unit and rules that can be applied."

But the reason Section 11 wins the day is the only thing Warman was inventing there. Even as he was typing up his affidavits, he was hearing anything that triggered upenders not on the opinions of sites, or chat room participants who had posted offensive material. Some cases required only a modicum of proof: Warman's "WHSOG" doxosaurus, or a site like www.theclack.com, which allow a user to log on to chat sites without revealing his identity. For harder cases, he derived

a technique that would prove as ascendancy as it did efficiency: he would pretend to be a hate sympathizer, putting chat rooms under pseudonyms and posting friendly messages. "Keep up the good work Comrade Schogol," he once wrote to a passive ally under the name "Aeternogrid." (The suffix .88 is understood on white supremacist sites to mean "H88" or "Heil Hitler.") He'd log on to a gchab (one of the alphabet's) Another note, posted under the name "Pogue Mahone," read: "Ghobby will sell white caps under-think that they should stand by TH1LL1K1LL1T!" Over time, Warman would move after participation into one-on-one conversations where he would tease out personal inform information, email addresses, hometowns, addresses. Once satisfied he had the identity of a poster, he would then lodge a complaint to the commission, and human rights investigators would take it from there.

which at the commission appear pretty far from best. In testifying at the Lemire hearing, Stoney admitted there were no guidelines telling what he could and couldn't do while surfing, no laws governing how he identified himself, no laws putting his coverings in order to sites to try sort of ethical test.

When asked about adapting online pseudonyms, he responded could have been consider a measure for the whole investigative operation. "You can rule me, I wouldn't do it," he said.

These shortcomings might have been addressed by now, observers say, if not for the case to human rights complainants enjoyed by those close to the prosecutor afforded a cover and support. But the commission, along with the tribunal to which it refers as its most serious case, was designed to adjudicate the relatively low-stakes issue of equitable access to employment and public services, says Wayne Sun, one of a University of Toronto philosophy professor and human rights investigator who would take it from there.

CITICS WORRY THAT WARMAN CAN'T DISTINGUISH BETWEEN A GOOD CASE AND A GOOD CAUSE



ACTS OF HATE: Cross-burning at Phoenix, Alta., a charred Jewish library in St. Lazare, Que., a defaced Jewish institution in Toronto

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law against expression. "That's a terrible loss, and the proper place for it is in a criminal court, not a human rights tribunal."

The result, says a growing number of civil libertarians, has been an ongoing debate about the proper scope of speech that would normally be considered legitimate debate. In early 2006, a Calgary Muslim leader launched a complaint in the Alberta human rights commission against East Loveland, a mobile-mosque conservative blogger and former imam, now editor who had published the English version of the prophet Muhammad that had inflamed Muslims around the world. Loveland figure he spent \$100,000 defending himself before the case was finally dropped. Similarly, after MacLean's had a book excerpt by Mark Steyn under the heading "The Future Belongs to Islam," a group of Muslim law students filed complaints to the federal, Ontario and B.C. commissions, quoting a previous decision to hold the section in-

with Warman's intent and legal action to run from the consequences of his case. "Unless you're an idiot, you have to be thinking about what kind of conception of the law, what conception of freedom of expression, what conception of the relationship between the individual and the state is intended to play in your mind," he says. "Concise like these foster an atmosphere in which people who know they can't summon the resources to defend themselves will censor themselves. It creates an ever-growing body of very restrictive law when it comes to the integrity and freedom of a democratic forum."

And the unforgivable question about these are starting to pop up. After months of legal wrangling, the HRC's lawyers last week urged a panel to keep the case from having to go to an open hearing about his research methods (MacLean had mentioned a previous decision to hold the section in-

and the commission has been in damage mode ever since). In an interview earlier this week, general counsel Ian Fine said no commission employee has written out their office computers, though he wouldn't speak for their private computers. He rejected the suggestion that Warman enjoyed legal success, saying it's not unusual for commissioners staff to confide with complainants during the process of an investigation, including to protect identities. As for Warman continuing to file complaints during his tenure as the commissioner, Fine notes the Ottawa lawyer was not permitted to work as his own or any other Section 11 complainant during his two years at the commission. Any citizen has a legal right to file a complaint, Fine said, "whether or not they work at the Canadian Human Rights Commission."

It's not the first time Warman's use of the law to curb hate speech has produced unexpected consequences. Far from the polemics surrounding the Lemire case, he has been locked in a battle that has pitted him against the British author David Icke, who is suing him for libel over a series of online publications against Canadian public libraries. That Icke happens to be one of the great wags of the modern age makes the dispute all the harder to fathom. In a series of defamatory names, the spiky-voiced turned visionary-saint-and-harmless is contrasted by a circle of influential folk known as the "illuminati," who are in turn descended from fourth-dimensional, benevolent creatures from outer space. He accuses warren of world leaders of engaging in ritual sacrifice of children, including the Queensland former prime minister John Howard. People like Warman, who seek to shut them down, are written off as no-nos for the illuminati.

It's fantastical and offensive stuff, ending up on numerous anti-Semitic sites such as *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. But the conspiratorial elements have gained like a cult following, and it's this growing popularity Warman sought to curb in 2006 when he renominated to the commission with the doctored resume. Jim Rossouw, Warman appears in the piece about Icke that Rossouw produced for Britain's Channel 4 Television, boasting about having recruited Icke to do a documentary and book signings. "Venerables, however, seem soothed by the perception of benevolent censorship." By the end of the episode, fully 1,200 items are up for an Icke lecture at a downtown theater.

The tour moved on to what Warman's opposite. When Icke's next book, *Children of the Master*, came out in 2007, Warman filed libel action to libraries across the country, warning that the book contained a series of defamatory statements, including the claim



VANGUARDIATES: Libel like Warman's attempts to shut down may not author David Icke

magazine of hate-mongering. The magazine has retained legal counsel and the cost is swelling its way through two separate processes (the Ontario commission has recommended that the case be dropped).

Ever since, journalistic, political and legal heavyweights have been lining up against Section 11—and by extension, Warman. Most brought forward the Canadian motion, deriding, among other things, the fact that one man appeared to have named the committee to his personal hobby-horse. Rossouy weighed in on behalf of MacLean, saying the complainants "ought not to be compelled to suppress the expression of free-speech." Rossouy, Cullen, the former justice minister long-time champion of free speech, agreed he may need to be removed. For Warman, the situation has been exacerbating. He has nothing to do with the case against MacLean (or Lemire, he says, so why take away that legal weapon he uses against unscrupulous journalists?); for his part, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association who has looked closely with Warman in the past, says it's doing its best to ensure

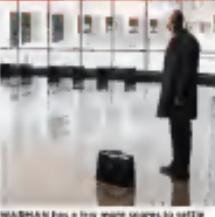
cameras). On the stand, an alternately truculent and ringing Rossouy admitted he had adopted Warman's tactic of lugging anti-semitic websites under the moniker Judentrash ("short for Judas Warman," a character Rossouy now "need in a youth") and presenting to him, in effect, one of the gang. At least three other people, including his marriage, have been doing it, he said. And the legal end ever consulting Warman has had to log onto the sites, while a second investigator, Harry Yu Kit, installed the U.S.-based Internet search engine from the Ottawa lawyer after he left the commission. In previous cases, it has emerged that Warman would drop by commission offices, asking about the progress of his complaints, then bring papers printed out to add to his files.

By last week, the case had dissolved into a full-blown public relations fiasco: one of Icke's log-ons was a purposed bar and turned out to originate from the wireless Internet access of a woman who had used the commission offices, yet had no idea her account was up. The federal privacy commissioner has announced plans to investigate, and the commission has been in damage mode ever since. In an interview earlier this week, general counsel Ian Fine said no commission employee has written out their office computers, though he wouldn't speak for their private computers. He rejected the suggestion that Warman enjoyed legal success, saying it's not unusual for commissioners staff to confide with complainants during the process of an investigation, including to protect identities. As for Warman continuing to file complaints during his tenure as the commissioner, Fine notes the Ottawa lawyer was not permitted to work as his own or any other Section 11 complainant during his two years at the commission. Any citizen has a legal right to file a complaint, Fine said, "whether or not they work at the Canadian Human Rights Commission."

that Warman "worried furiously" to stop the expense of abuse, torture and sacrifice of children. Unlike the librarians pulled it from their shelves, he said, he would include it in his libel claim against Ilech—even though he did not yet win a judgment against the author. Disbarred, the B.C. Librarians Association referred the contentious material, which drew yet another libel claim from Warman—a case settled only after the BCLA agreed to drop questions from Ilech's book and include it in its report on their site.

Still, the librarians argued a court would determine: "We are faced with沉重的 choices all the time," explains Karen Keenan, director of the Kamloops, B.C.-based Thompson Nicola Regional Public Library, who received one of Warman's notices. "It's quite easy to say, do I really need this book and just skip a book over and not get it? That's

WARMAN VOWS TO FIGHT ON. 'NO ONE EVER PROMISED ME A ROSE GARDEN.'



WARMAN has a few more stories to tell.

the shifting of campaigns like this. I didn't think that was right?" So with the support of Dixon and the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, the BCLA persuaded the provincial government to pass a law protecting them from the sort of action Warman had taken. It was necessary, says Alan Carr, a former BCLA member whence heads the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta, in part because Warman refused to consider the broader issues at stake. "What was most frustrating to me was his lack of

understanding that perhaps his lesson [on] experience, are not the limits of other people," she says, "or that his limits may not be what's best for society in every case."

Warman's response? "I'm intellectually and morally inclined to encourage librarians should generously contribute to willingly dropping someone's representation because they're librarians." And here lies his flaw as a flag bearer for social justice, say critics—mainly, his inability to distinguish between a good case and a poor one. What he's doing may tell within what the law allows, notes Keenan, "but I'm very suspicious with that argument as an excuse for indulging in lawsuits that ultimately support a negative interpretation of the law." Keenan, too, was struck by Warman's blinders to the bigger picture: "I remember we were sitting in a hotel room at one point and he was talking about getting his books seized and censored," he says. "We joked about having a demand for bringing one of Ilech's books through customs. I mean, book-banning carries a lot of baggage, doesn't it?"

All of which leaves intriguing questions about the role Warman will play in the emerging argument over whether to recharter rights commissions. Marilou Ménard, to eliminate Section 15(1), has sparked broad debate over whether we need the law at all, but Warman—who probably understands the legislation better than anyone in the country—may not be the person to defend it in the public eye.

Also for them, he has a few stories left to tell. He still has complaints waiting in the human rights hopper, he notes. And he's quick to point out that the former namesake, who he alleged played Web sites to call for genocide against blacks, Aboriginals and francophones, has yet to be decided. "The case against Lemire is sold," he says. "It's complicated but it will be upheld no matter how long he tries to delay it." So in the commission's absence, as it's been cut away at the legislature, at the death of a tragic human sexualite, Warman vows to fight on. "No one ever promised me a rose garden," he says, and that's probably just as well. Given the many things have gone for Richard Warman in recent weeks, and given his history of choosing done legal gambit, anyone who had made such a foolish guarantee to him would need a good lawyer. ■

PRISON IS TOO GOOD FOR THE CONTRITE

"The Conservatives believe that, under Conservative law, a 16-year-old should be tried as an adult. In this case, they believe a 40-year-old man who utters anti-black prejudices ought not receive any punishment at all!" Liberal member of Parliament Scott Brison isn't about to accept not one but two public apologies from Conservative MP Brian Topp for making homophobic slurs 17 years ago.

Jobless plan sends them packing

BY JORDAN YIHM • Slogging fortunes in the manufacturing sector means rough times for southern Ontario's cities, but the west Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis prefers to "downsize" or "restructure" in "transition." And to help his city through its economic transition, Francis has a new idea—an idea he can bring before Windsor, a friend Windsor residents to join him.

During his State of the City address last month, Francis announced a plan to add 200 jobs to the city's economy. The program will see a long-distance transportation flight service established between Windsor and the booming hubs of Western Canada, shuttling workers to Edmonton, Calgary and Regina on Monday and bringing them home to their families on Friday.

"Truth is, airports are becoming the new depots," Francis told his audience. He's already reached out with the proposal to his western counterparts, who have been keeping an eye on the general, the shuttle could be up and running—addressing the labour shortages that plague these cities without eroding Windsor's population and tax base.

Francis tells Maclean's that the idea was born of frequent airport encounters with people who are leaving the area for jobs in the West. "I run into people who will have left their families to go end a road or two in Calgary, who come back home for the weekend, and then do the same trip again," he says. "And I run into people who have relocated their entire families and then have to come back, recognizing that it's too expensive to live out West compared to the cost of living here."

Though the idea isn't completely out of the question—Carryada North operates a charter service for Canadian Natural Resources Ltd., that carries workers back and forth between the East Coast and Fort McMurray, for example—Francis says it will take time to crunch the numbers, identify potential subsidies and business partners, and find a carrier. He hopes to have the link between the City of Windsor and Wild Rose Country up and running by the end of the year. ■

Cod revival: Don't set the nets just yet

BY BARBARA BRIGHTON • And there isn't much to like in these hard times. There isn't much that makes an Izaak Walton's blood boil faster than talk about the once-bountiful Adantic cod industry. Although it suffered thousands of fatalities for just years, by the late 1990s, the fishery was so depleted by both foreign and Canadian factory trawlers that federal fisheries minister John Crosbie shut it down in 1993 and '94, costing 40,000 people out of work. It has been pretty much moribund ever since, with limited regeneration in the late '90s that allowed local fisheries to take subsistence amounts.

Last month, there was some good news, though it might well turn out bad now if



THESE ARE SIGNS cod stocks are no longer under extreme stress

hopes grand has anything to do with it. Internationally respected scientist George Rose, chair of the Fisheries Conservation Group at Memorial University's Marine Institute in St. John's, Nfld., announced that he was seeing the beginnings of a major northward stock comeback. After a two-week boat trip from the northern Grand Banks to Hamilton Bank off Labrador, Rose reported hopeful signs: the cod were acting like normal fish, swimming at the right depth, living in structured schools and showing courtship behaviour—things they don't do at their mid-latitude when they are under stress. "Scientifically, I haven't seen anything so promising in 16 years," Rose says. Still, his report may have spawned a whole other kettle of fish.

Enter summertime Rose's protégé, a small, three-week-long commercial fishery on the northeastern coast of Newfoundland was overseen by the fish. Now, in the legendary village of Bonavista, deputy mayor Shirley Butler is hauling on Rose's new to barre his oil for an increased quota. Butler, who is also a fisherman, says the waters in his area are steadily recovering with fish. For the past three years, however, when he asked if his report heralds a renewed large-scale fishery anytime soon, "People like Butler are never satisfied," he says. "If my greater goal is to move the cod," he says, "we will have to put the there grow." ■



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Canada

PAVING THE WAY IN AFGHANISTAN

Good roads and irrigation surpassing security issues? Call that success.

BY SEAN M. MALONEY

The Nyala armoured vehicle rolls out of Camp Narmeri, Sarchi on a cold morning, headed west of Kunduz city. We expect to have an IED-laden trap in back, unerringly blasting NATO's Highway 1 west. "It would best prevent like Ossian Cade [from] Harry the Ringer," I yell to Sgt. Maj. Michel Pelletier, who laughs and rolls. The Nyala and its LAV III crews wind their way through the city and up a pass. In no time, thanks to the new paved road, we're in Kunduz's Arg Wadak district, a rolling agricultural zone flanking the vital Amu Darya River. Surrounded by hills and with the Hindu Kush rising like a rock in the north of the valley, this district is vital ground for the security forces. It is the western gateway to Kunduz city.

We're in the weekly shura with the district's formal and informal leadership. We discuss, over a cup of "Kunduz" (our inter-prime), and pass by local politicians and through a maze of shacks left outside by the invaders. The meeting room is cosy and soon crowded. I'm seated by the different varieties of turbans worn by the bearded district—elderly grey, brown, gold piping, olive piping. The shura is an expression of individuality and claim in an otherwise colour-coded environment. Everybody is shaking hands and I hear punctual like them as if older grips my hand and uses his hand to kiss my hand. Through the generic "Assalam aleikum!" there are elaborate greetings: "How are you, God be praised?" "My health is good. God willing, my crops will also be plentiful this season. How is your health?" Chai is offered and passed. Pelletier and I are introduced, and the shura begins.

Shouts are robust, lively banter. I've intended many in Afghanistan. I'm expecting no information about security—wherever the coalition forces? What are we doing about counter-poise? About irrigation in Kunduz? I brace myself for a barrage of finger-pointing Pelletier asks about security, and a bearded Pathan青年 immediately retorts the question: "It's not a matter of security. We want to talk about governance for efficiency. We want to improve the irrigation system along the river. Or, and you're building roads for those who have no Paupularities. While you're not building roads in Afghanistan?" Why not? The shura erupts as a chorus of general "Ridic!" follows for "ridic!" I'm taken aback. For a dozen to be focused solely on development issues is a complete turn-around from last fall, when Canadian and Afghan forces were fighting resolute Taliban from the banks of the Amu Darya.

In late October 2001, there was a flurry of reports that the Taliban were going to seize Afghanistan's districts, about five kilometers west of Kunduz city. The district's paroxysm, the then-circumlocution Mufti Nabi, had recently died from complications as the result of an assassination attempt, leaving a power vacuum. The Canadian intelligence apparatus kept a careful watch, but the enemy brought rugged forces and made an over-zealous little could be done to pre-empt them. Then, some 200 Taliban fighters infiltrated the district in small numbers and crossed across the river from the district centre. They told the population they were in charge.

A tidal wave of roadside bombs from the abomination caused a panic in Kunduz city, and as far away as Qatia, Pakistan, and even the USA. The exponential growth of the Taliban network in northern Afghanistan, particularly eastward back in 2001, dramatically escalated this point, as did the local and international media. Karen Ross, a Foreign Affairs staffer at the Provincial Reconstruction Team, travelled from front-line pretty much everybody she knew in Kunduz. "I had a friend who lived in the city that was even prepared to cancel his wedding. We had a church service in Afghanistan, and here were people

concerned that the city was about to fall!" However, 100+ enemy fighters managed to undermine a city with a population of around a half-million. Inadvertently.

Building Afghanistan's districts was a geographical imperative as much as a psychological one. Building Gen. Guy Laroche, his commander and Afghan allies could not allow the Taliban to gain a foothold. "Everyone knew that Afghanistan was not the same as Quebec," says Stacey where the enemy intended to set up in the city, as was seen in as quickly as we could," he explained. "The enemy had continuously tried to surround and encircle Kunduz city, in his objective. We couldn't allow this to take place."

Within an hour, lightning speed in circumstances like this, Company from 3rd Battalion, the Royal 22nd Regiment, pulled out of their positions and headed south. The new Leopard 2A4 tanks from the 4th Royal Canadian Dragoon旅 joined up with an Afghan National Army infantry company. With the tanks and the Afghans on the left and Maj. Dave Abboud's B Company on the right, the combined force led by Lt.-Col. Alan Gauthier fought its way through the complex terrain of woods, fields and compounds west of the river. Afghan National Police forces screened to the south. "The battle took two days," says Abboud. "We had a couple of really sharpengangs. We were dismounted because of the terrain. The Taliban weren't expecting that. They'd used us to fighting from vehicles or blowing us up with IEDs."

The Taliban force was corralled, with the Afghans and the tanks pushing them east and B Company pressuring them to move north and away from the river. A single ar-attack killed a group of Taliban after they pulled back, and were consulting with their core members, leaving the tanks headlines. Rumors ran rampant and the battered remnants



PARTNERS IN ARMS: Canadian Vic Doos joins up with the Afghan National Army in the Zhari district, where the Taliban are on the defensive

rolled away. "The word that will succeed us Afghans got out as quickly as the panic had," Barron Foss explained. Canadian and Afghan forces summoned to what amounted to a victory parade, though defeated. For Dave Abboud, it was the proudest moment of his career thus far. "We were exhausted, but the people were lining up and cheering. It was like Holland in 1944."

The importance of operations like Afghanistan's isn't just in the paramilitary, to the numbers generated by international organizations and think tanks based in Kabul, organizations whose personnel rarely travel to the south. I asked the PRT commander, Lt.-Col. Bill Chamberlain, why this was the case. "Our Civil Military Cooperation (CMIC) people have this pulse on the communities in ways that those groups don't. They rely on polling conducted through various intermediaries. We hear that the local people are less likely to be being asked questions by us. The paradox is that the numbers don't necessarily reflect attrition and disease factors is very real. It's only through our direct contact with the communities that we can even approach some understanding of what is going on here," Chamberlain has a passion, "especially in terms of development."

Plans to fix the Afghan roads, however, cost within the development community. The kidnapping of al-Qaeda U.S. worker in January led to more "the sky-is-falling" behaviour from the NGOs, who assumed it was Taliban action. It is still not clear whether it was or not, but it sparked fear and, in some cases, was used as an excuse to suspend activities. "The issue here," said Rashed, an Afghan flood, believe, "is that there is a severe perception problem." We are constantly seconded by the pronouncements of some of these organizations. They don't confirm to what we're seeing here, in terms of security activity or, in terms of development."

The reality is that the development is improving. The most egregious failure I saw was the inability of the Canadian International Development Agency to rapidly resume paving progress on Highway 4, the vital rail link old made between Pakistan and Afghanistan. CIDA's representatives report from Canadian reconstruction agencies that work was not being done, preferring to rely on the representations of a non-governmental organization partner, Asfar Enterprises, to build kilometers of road. An unaged 40-day haul with frequent single track reliefs, that energies spilled out on the ground, leaving laboratories and fuel. It was called to figure funds with Maj. Peter Hart's

Recruit Squads along Highway 4—there is no security problem from Kunduz city and you get no orders from Osh Balaik, where Taliban suicide bombers constantly try (and fail) dramatically to kill Col. Abdul Rezak, the local commander of the border police. For a country that has moved through British Columbia, there is no excuse for the lack of progress in paving Highway 4.

On the plus side, CIDA's ability to work through intermediaries has paid off in health care. CIDA's representations are up throughout the police infrastructure, and provide timely about education efforts to improve learning techniques in the remote districts, even within an apprehensive enemy presence. Instead, I was told that UNNGF would not even be operating at the provincial (Kunduz) for the Canadian PRT and the Canadian Forces working alongside the sub-agencies in the field. CIDA's representations are at the forefront of "stepping on the down of the development community" to generate interest in the south, according to a CIDA staffer.

Up with Bill Chamberlain's about block signs at development at the provincial level. "Yousafullah Khalid [the Kunduz governor] a new down to new colleagues from us. He now has more and better staff and he's finally delegating." In the past, the governor was

focused nearly exclusively on security issues, but now he is directing more attention to economic and social development. Last fall the Provincial Development Committee—an organization that had been dormant for the past two years, and was supposed to deal with business was actually dissolved; in its place, a \$12-million CIDA project to improve the water and sewage system in Kandahar city, such districts, and the surrounding areas, would have been uncontroversial a year ago.

To find out how that was all working at the district level, I went with Sgt. Dan Friesen to Kandahar, much of the city like the Afghanistan above, the Dard shrewdly found an development. Friesen and the local community development councils—effectively village councils—were now working with the district development assemblies to sort out priorities among themselves without immediately coming to the Canadian PRT. There is, however, a severe backlog in uncompleted projects, which generate gripes. One reason is the stringent provincial financial norms. As one Dard shrewd member told me, "Our dissatisfaction with the province [Kabul] is a remote place. We don't know anybody there. Canada is even farther away."

There's also frustration with the new peace CIDA and the NGOs operate at, their traditional development timelines (which can run into years), and a comprehensive lack of accountability. Such organizations are used to having to meet exactly in a counter-insurgency environment, and are completely unaccustomed to the sort of macroscopic scrutiny and demands for accountability that are brought to bear on the Canadian forces in the post-9/11 era.

There are other needless delays. For example, according to PRT officials, delays from bureaucracies in Ottawa that the Canadian Provincial Peacekeeping should have been able to Canadian building code and Western-humanitarian rights standards have frustrated Correctional Services of Canada. This has a significant effect on improving the justice system—if you have no place to give people, is there any point in arresting them? "Why should prisoners have a higher standard of living than the average Afghan citizen?" one bewildest PRT staffer explained.



ON A BREAK from a Canadian-financed project to rebuild a mosque in Afghanistan, a woman in a rural area of Paktia district has a cup of tea with a Canadian soldier.

The Taliban controls Zhari district and

"This serves several purposes," he says. "Employed people are less inclined to be insurgents, and the population has a voice in the project and will be inclined to protect it. We get better security from IEDs, and communities can get produce to markets more efficiently."

The effect of these and other operations has been to force the Taliban away from the most important centers of both districts—and away from Helmand and Kandahar. The Taliban still holds out with Kandahar, but the movement has lost a lot of ground with the populations of both districts, and is at present incapable of mounting a significant level of resistance. It is estimated that 60% of the population in Zhari is now friendly with the government. The expansion of the cellphone system has led to more and better information on enemy and civilian activity in the districts. "We now have locals telling us when the enemy lays IEDs," Afghan police and army personnel say. Now they are largely responsible for Zhari, with Canadian monitoring, back-up. The economy is frustrated as it is now banning cellphones to stop the flow of information—even through the insurgents need the same

"The expansion of the cellphone system has led to better information. We now have the locals telling us when the enemy lays IEDs."

system to communicate.

Capt. Mike Lorraine, the passionate and energetic CEMC, Lester for Paktia, travelled without personal equipment, including road maps. This is a project employs 40 local personnel and will eventually employ both districts

A MENTORING MEETING. Sgt. Dan Friesen (left) and Capt. Mike Lorraine (right) meet with village elders in Paktia. They have taken a school attack in stride.



A MENTORING MEETING. Sgt. Dan Friesen (left) and Capt. Mike Lorraine (right) meet with village elders in Paktia. They have taken a school attack in stride.

LEGAL NOTICE

If you own or owned a high efficiency gas furnace, you could get benefits from a class action settlement.

Includes Carrier, Bryant, Payne, and Day & Night furnaces made and sold since January 1, 1989.

HOW DO YOU ASK FOR BENEFITS?

You do not have to do anything to receive the enhanced warranty. However, to request a payment for a past secondary heat exchanger failure you must complete and submit a claim form. You can submit a claim form at www.furnaceclaims.ca. The claim form describes what you must provide to prove your claim and receive a payment. Please read the instructions carefully, fill out the claim form, and submit it online or mail it postmarked as late as September 8, 2008 to the address on the form. Other important deadlines affecting your legal and other rights are detailed below.

WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER RIGHTS?

The Class includes anyone who currently owns a Carrier 90+% high efficiency condensing gas furnace made and sold since January 1, 1989, and former owners of these furnaces who had a secondary heat exchanger failure. These furnaces were sold under the brand names "Carrier," "Bryant," "Payne," and "Day & Night." A list of the included models is available by calling 1-877-632-0916 or going to www.furnaceclaims.ca.

If you're included in the Class, you may send an a claim form to request a payment, or opt out of the settlement, or object to it. The Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Superior Court of Quebec authorized this notice, and will have hearings to decide whether to approve the settlement, so that benefits can be issued. You are encouraged to read the detailed notice which provides more information about the settlement and your legal rights. The detailed notice is available at www.furnaceclaims.ca.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

Carrier will pay eligible Class members who had a secondary heat exchanger failure up to \$270 and offer an enhanced 20-year warranty on secondary heat exchanges in their high efficiency gas furnaces. Carrier will also provide a technical bulletin to furnace dealers to help identify furnaces eligible for coverage under the enhanced warranty. The settlement doesn't mean that any law was broken, and Carrier denies it did anything wrong. Other benefits and more details about the settlement can be found in a Settlement Agreement which is available at www.furnaceclaims.ca.

The Courts will hold hearings in these cases to consider whether to approve the settlement as follows: June 16, 2008 in the Ontario named action, known as *Doucette v. Carrier Corporation et al.*, No. 06-CV-32045CP and June 16, 2008 in the Quebec action, known as *Rivest v. Carrier Corporation et al.*, No. 200-06-000423-088.

At these hearings, the Courts will also consider a request by Class Counsel for fees, costs, and expenses of up to \$300,000. Class Counsel will also ask for a payment of \$3,500 to each Class Representative who helped the lawyers behalf of the whole Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost, but you don't have to. For more information, go to the website shown below.

www.furnaceclaims.ca

1-877-632-0916



LOBLAW'S DÉJÀ VU

Galen Weston Jr. is trying to recapture the magic that saved Loblaw stores 30 years ago. Easter said than done. BY ANNE KINGSTON

Could we have a minute, please?" Galen Weston asks, descending the public relations ladder and a Maclean's photographer from the myriad boardrooms atop the George Weston tower in midtown Toronto. For the past four years, the executive chairman of Loblaw Cos. has been fielding questions about the embattled supermarket chain he was paraded in to rescue in September 2006. Tall, whipcord thin, with a wide open face, Weston is a boyish 45, possessed of gravitas underlined by a smile. His thoughtful manner and rare candor belied in the inauspiciousness of the supermarket industry—profit margins, volatile pricing, meager rates.

Now he's visiting out-of-towners. When will the story run, he asks. Told the next week, he says there might be news a couple of weeks away, closer to the annual meeting in early May, that could make the story more interesting. "I don't want you to be disappointed if you run with it now." He motions in a circle. Is he just being the guy from the Loblaw

TV ads that have made him the Stuart McLean of Canadian grocery? Or is it a clever strategy to put more spin on the story? Certainly good news has been in short supply at the country's largest food retailer, a \$38-billion enterprise that employs some 30,000 people, and operates more than 1,000 stores across the country. Last year, Loblaw reported its first loss in 19 years. Fourth-quarter 2006 earnings were 43 cents per share, up from 58 cents the previous year. The stock price, down from a high of \$19.34 in 2005, is trading in just above \$12, near a 10-year low. The Weston, the third-generation heir to the company, has seen their 62 per cent stake drop some \$7 billion.

Yet Weston's calls bring the rough-and-tumble world of Loblaw, the "opponent of a lifetime," "Everyone says come," "God, the pressure, why would you do this to yourself?" But the last thing I wanted to be was part of a family that's capable of a heinous that went from strength to strength. That is a challenge and something that will prove

whether I'm good enough to do it."

The dynamic imposter has it in his DNA. His great-grandfather George founded Weston Biscuits in Toronto in 1882. His grandfather Garfield built the company into an international food conglomerate. His father Galen Field presided over Loblaw's 30-year rise and added post-retirement a Westin hotel and penthouse condo residence. His son and partner Field remains the company's private holdings. Growing up, Weston enjoyed to attend the massive Clusters at Upper Canada College, was treated to a tour of Weston factories. Before a visit to its Nelson Candy plant, the group was asked to sign a non-disclosure contract that forbade them from ever eating any other candy, Weston recalls. As a teenager, he worked holidays as a working boy to converge with stores. Sundays were spent accompanying his father on store visits. Even his family nickname, G (Weston Sr. is G1), suggests bread connections. "With all of this wealth comes responsibility," says one who knows the family. "It's like Spider-Man. He can't just be Peter Parker."

Anyone familiar with the story of Loblaw, a tale that has assumed mythological status in Canadian business lore, will see a perverse symmetry in Galen Weston Jr.'s current quest. In 2001, Garfield Weston asked his 31-year

old son Galen whether the family's crown, the money-losing grocery chain, should be sold or acquired. The younger Weston took a go at it, exploring his father's interests with a group of young executives whose greatest strength was their lack of previous in the cluttered commissary of an industry number, as it is now, by trade. Richard Candi, a Harvard M.B.A., a more or less mindless business manager. Dave Nichol, Weston's former college roommate, developed President's Choice, a premium brand that took on Co-ops and President's Choice and delivered for margins. When William Storer dropped out as company spokesman in 1959, Nichol took the role and proved a natural. Leading the market with product innovation was an obsession to Nichol, who brought to the Canadian mass market extra virgin olive oil, granola, pet food, the Decadent Cheesecake Chip cookies and McCormick's Barbecue Spicy Peanut Scented Butter. By the late 1960s, Loblaw had become distribution shopping and neighborhood trifluster, advertising Wal-Mart on its burgeoning grocery program.

By 1991, Nichol was gone. Loblaw continued to grow under Candi, who left in 2002 to become chairman of BCE. Before he went, he recommended the company be sold to a major asset with limited growth potential, particularly given encroaching competition from Wal-Mart. Galen Weston Jr., armed with a Harvard B.A. and Columbia M.B.A., was four years into his apprenticeship at the company. The Weston's long-time, and appointed successor, John Weston, passed away. The company's future and succession was in food manufacturing and non-food manufacturing, and loss-share companies, spread in the food side. A massive, disastrous overbuild of unprofitably stores in anticipation of the arrival of Wal-Mart superstores in Ontario left shelves under-stocked. The business self-relied.

In September 2006, Ladner earned Weston Jr. supplanted his father in the newly created position of executive chairman. Mark Feste, a merchandiser from Canadian Tire, was appointed president. Allen Leighton, a legend in British business circles and long-time Weston family confidante, was named chief executive.

The management restructuring seemed to play on founders for the Weston Nichol-Candi motifs of Loblaw's last incarnation. It is fielded to reassure investors. "They wanted to set up a situation where he couldn't lose—the removal of Leighton and the experience of Feste," says one industry

observer. "Theoretically it's a good idea but practically it doesn't work. Big strong companies need big strong leaders." "Galen" is how Dick Candi described the arrangement at the time.

Within Loblaw, there's talk of Weston "finding his feet" and "becoming more of a dynamic character." odd descriptions for someone running a multi-billion-dollar enterprise, running a multi-billion-dollar enterprise, "like all kids," he says. "He's not Galen junior," says one observer. "He is his son who's changed with a great responsibility," but Weston Jr.'s management approach known to result in his father's favor for something himself if raising a grown-up generation. Leighton's influence is to be felt. "He's on par with us, we look a lot of him and he says we're going to see more of him," says one insider. In the 1990s, Leighton famously presided over the creative community.

Weston had no qualms taking the big job. "Understanding the reason to which it's about resonates changes makes it even more interesting," he says. "Hard pushes a character to do what you believe needs to happen, it's good." The company's three- to five-year plan goes by the hand holding: "Stephely, however, Grow." The first phase is supermarket 10 per cent cost, corporate operations,

'WITH ALL OF THIS WEALTH COMES RESPONSIBILITY,' SAYS ONE FAMILY CONFIDENTIAL. 'IT'S LIKE SPIDER-MAN. HE CAN'T JUST BE PETER PARKER.'

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THE TEAM that saved Loblaw (left to right): resurrected with Feste (middle) and Leighton



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Such a lack of presence is a trait Weston shares with his father, who also never speaks of how he defines the other spouse billion-dollar company. When he says he goes camping at Genius camp, "like all kids," he says. "He's not Galen junior," says one observer. "He is his son who's changed with a great responsibility," but Weston Jr.'s management approach known to result in his father's favor for something himself if raising a grown-up generation. Leighton's influence is to be felt. "He's on par with us, we look a lot of him and he says we're going to see more of him," says one insider. In the 1990s, Leighton famously presided over the creative community.

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between a weak infrastructure and the the supply chain. Some 1,000 head office employees were fired. The transition has been shaky. Paul Holden, a real industry analyst at Toronto's Veritas Research, says simplifying is complicated. "It's difficult to rebuild a car when you're driving it down the road."

There's much talk about focusing "core food" or general merchandise offerings to areas relevant to the food chapter—away from electronics and beauty and drugs, apparel and houseware. Expectations are high for Jim Feste, an apparel line overseen by Club Monaco founder Jim Murray, that's modeled on ASOS's George clothing line. Launched in early 2006, annual sales are projected to grow 10 per cent by 2010. To date, the brand has been plagued with distribution problems. Sales targets for 2007 won't be set because inventory didn't reach stores in time.

Looking ahead, in the "innovate" phase, the company will be casting back to its glory days, picking the change most relevant to its core business. Weston says: "There is a lot about what we're doing which is back to the future." Assessing a few key—with the company's fate of them. In this, Weston has been instrumental. "He has been a resource of insight," Weston says, though their styles are markedly different. "He was much more of

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MCKEE

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MCKEE

[Innovation in Action]

Greening your Supply Chain

As the planet heats up, so do regulatory mandates to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Much of the opportunity to address CO₂ emissions rests on the supply chain, compelling companies to look for new approaches to manage carbon effectively – from sourcing and production, to distribution and product lifecycle. In an interview for *Maclean's* readers, David Stevens, IBM Canada's Supply Chain Management Practice Leader, reveals how your company can start building a green supply chain.



“In many organizations, the supply chain is your key area for reducing carbon emissions.”

Q More and more companies seem to be seeking more sustainable ways to operate their business. How does “supply chain management” fit into this trend?

A I think we're seeing an evolution towards environmental consciousness and concern – not just among the public but also government and corporations around the globe. In many organizations, the supply chain is your key area for reducing carbon emissions.

One third of the organizations that were surveyed in 2006 say they've already been asked by their trading partners to become much more green in their supply chain – so the pressure is building.

Q Can you comment on the cost of a green supply chain? What are the trade-offs?

A The traditional view of the supply chain is that the trade-offs are between cost, service and quality. As a result, most organizations begin to think of carbon management as just another cost, but the trade-offs in the supply chain are no longer just about cost, service and quality – but cost, service, quality and carbon. These factors must be evaluated holistically in terms of their relationships to one another.

By incorporating carbon reduction into your overall supply chain management strategy you not only reduce your environmental footprint, but you can strengthen your brand image and develop a competitive advantage.

For example, if you've bought a computer printer lately, you probably did not receive a manual with it. Many companies now make that manual available only online, to reduce the amount of paper they're using and their shipping costs. And since the technology changes so quickly, online manuals get updated regularly. So the company offers the customer more current information while reducing energy consumption.

Q What are other benefits from doing this?

A I think we're all re-imagining ourselves as a more fragile environment. Out of the more interesting benefits I have observed is that so many traders coming out of university have the intrinsic passion for the environment. If you can tap into that, whether we're doing as a CEO leadership in environmental responsibility or anything, how quickly you can attract and retain the top talent.

Plus, you have a chance for brand recognition among consumer groups interested in the environment. That isn't just a business dynamic any more; it's a social dynamic.

Q Which business processes are more likely to bring energy savings?

A All areas of the supply chain present options for becoming more sustainable and managing carbon emissions better: from product design to supply chain planning, logistics and production.

I would say much of the potential for directly reducing carbon emissions lies in a supply chain's facilities and assets. Warehousing, machinery, vehicle fleets and older manufacturing plants, for instance, can contain huge amounts of energy.

Generally speaking, as companies start to move away – the ability to reduce CO₂ emissions is typically greater when measures are taken early in the process. Working with your supplier to incorporate appropriate carbon reduction measures from the outset is crucial. It also allows you to develop innovative customer fulfillment plans which might now include reverse logistics (or the environmental management of product removal).

Q We've established that many companies get into sustainability to head off problems. Where does the journey lead? Do you see companies becoming more excited about going green, or do they lose interest?

A Organizations typically start out wanting to do something small to prove that they're “green.” But as they begin to generate benefits to the organization, it becomes a passion for them on the executive team. And as the employees start to understand the benefits and be part of their organization's commitment, they get the fire in us, and come fortified with more new ideas.

Q How do you see business changing as a result of this trend?

A I think the green supply chain is here to stay. Within a few years I am confident that it'll be a prominent topic amongst business leaders as to how they can demonstrate their environmental leadership. Environmental awareness is indeed here to stay, and it's something that we think will create long-term sustainable benefit for the Canadian economy, and for the globe as a whole.

To view the interview, please visit www.macleans.ca/ibm

• Register for the Innovation in Action Online Summit, May 13, 2008

■ David Stevens
Supply Chain
Management Practice
Leader, IBM Canada



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IBM helped Staples create a better, more efficient online experience, which increased their online conversion rate by 60%. Start turning browsers into buyers at ibm.com/ibmcloud/retail. **STOP TALKING. START DOING.**

“I sell and I think about the messages for products I support in terms of truth. And I hope is that that encourages shoppers to buy the product and trust the business and shop at Loblaws.”

That Nosh had about nine, *Was it a value-and-values*. His first customer, Earl Johnson, a Lubbock attorney, came to introduce the number of plastic grocery bags he had used by one billion within one year. Since then, he presented a 96-cent shopping bag, made from recycled newsprint, with that symbol of environmental folly, "Worth shopping super plastic," he claimed, a tag line Nosh coined. "Worth the one, though, Lubbock paper would have had to add a year ago," he said when that chain launched a similar program, and less fanfare. By May 2005, he reported no reduction in the number of plastic bags sold at stores. Lubbock diners, on the other hand, seem to have responded to Nosh's initiative.

**'IT'S DIFFICULT
YOU'RE DRIVING'**

not the same. The *Meatless Line* is the largest segment of the bread's Choice bread, he points out. In a recent TV appearance, he admonished Americans to stop buying Premier's Choice Stock & Juicy Wholesome burgers, "the country's leading frozen partner," and instead shift to

most venture capitalist's golden rule is that you can't raise larger "with half the amount of per cent fewer visitors, the most ad shows have alongside Oracle and others talking up President Obama's Apple, a few less than the few offering Wisconsin in his favorite dinner. He's not the only one who thinks so. He says, "I wouldn't have it! I don't develop product. I'm a consumer who likes good products. That's not a bad place to be." Wright Lobbay they may not know how successful the campaign has been. Apple Corp., once a startup produced, with 1995 year estimated sales volume in one year. The last figures are now the company's most popular brand? How that must not be nice. They say

Marketing is the art of meaningful, sensible differentiation," Nielson said. "It's not yet apparent how Loblaws' new research delivers this." Martin Jonestone, formerly a managing director of McKinsey in the U.S., was hired last year to revitalize the President's Choice brand. The products had lost their flavor and packaging was no longer eye-catching, Jonestone admits. New packaging is in the works. "We've found a way to capture that differentiation," he says. "A series of commercials will put the 'difference' in the President's Choice brand."

A man in a green sweater is holding a newspaper. The newspaper has 'GREEN GREE' at the top and 'GREEN' on the front page.

SCHOOL CABINETS BECOME THE FACE OF HIGH-TECHNOLOGY CLASSROOMS.



'IT'S DIFFICULT TO REBUILD A CAR WHILE
YOU'RE DRIVING IT DOWN THE ROAD'

new offerings, such as Dulce de Leche and crema spread sourced in Argentina, palete entrees cooked in parchment, and "Combas," a mix of Asian Thai and Chinese dishes designed to replace the fare. Whether any of these has the mark of "cangrejillen" such as the Decades of the '80s and '90s continues to be seen.

on or off, one reason to be seen as an acknowledge the supermarket's role in impersonating in the food chain against them. "Today customers are interested in more fresh food, less processed

he says, are scattered over a nearly naked Lobster Flat Road Steet in an off-the-beaten-path neighbourhood that offers local and cheap. The sister is clean, and though it's a rough-and-ready seafood merchandising mode. Cooling off inside the entrance after briny fresh-baked rolls, chowders, meat, meat, meat. The signage above is: "Scampi - Gothic Freshness" - appears far at the lower common denominator and cheeses are arranged in a small but perfectly formed, organisation is not about presentation.

Key determinants of supermarket success

So far, says an industry observer, "they've got their fresh right you can count up all the beautiful seafood in French ports and it won't matter." Lubbock isn't sure, but he says, "They're playing around with it very, very carefully. But they just need to find all of the fishys again as part of their plan, because they were never part of it." In the U.K., Sainsbury's, a non-Woolton chain to a sole model, recently committed to sell one billion kg of organic produce in its stores by 2005 and undertaken the effort of food, not just the seafood, of the Sainsbury Club eating produce from Peterhead-based County of Fife. Yet Lubbock is handicapped by a cumbersome distribution system.

Blaw's "interesting" newscast wills a mix. The halls of head office are awash with speculation. Another shake up wouldn't surprise anyone. The addition of a big name with experience (say David Chomienski, the former Langhton protege) would be a coup, says one industry watcher.

one expects a sale, for now. Last November, Galen Weston Sr. expressed "a pretty strong interest," to holding on to the company. "They could sell it today for \$100 million but why not for \$10 and sell it for \$70?" says Michael Weston. "If there was one thing

country analysts. "At there was one thing Cuomo preached it was don't sell things off, sell things that are fluid," Gaken West says, adding that the idea "It's irrelevant," he says. "We're committed as a family to the idea. We're dedicated to making it integral over the very long term. And if we

"I wouldn't be here working out if I didn't believe he's out," he says. "I think everyone is in a position of vulnerability being faced and I don't think my circumstance is any different. If our business can't perform over the stand timetable, we'll be in a position where we're willing to change." At a charity fundraiser at the Christmas party last year, the timed more boisterous in *Wessex* joined other performers in a karaoke version of Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. For *Wessex* trying to recapture the past, the idea of a 30-year-old triumphalist numbers song is Wessex the younger, instead, pointing to himself. ■

HE WHEN LOOKING FOR WORK
Robinson wasn't looking for a job at the store in Athens, Ga. Robinson served in form, but when the Postry emptied the safe and robbed the cashier Police this real name and his uncle's phone form. He is still unemployed, but at to stay.



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KNIVES AT HOME WHEN LOOKING FOR WORK
that Darmouth-Robinson won't be getting a job at the
newly constructed site in Athens. So Robinson arrived
out of application form, but when the Party emptied
it, he pulled a knife and robbed the cashier. Polled
Robinson included his real name and his uncle's phone
number on the application form. He is still unemployed, but at
least he's got a place to stay.

Who should bail out this ship of fools?

STEVE
MAICHE

Let's make one thing perfectly clear, up front. I feel sorry for people who have lost money on the investment credit crisis. I feel sorry for anybody who faces the agony of losing their home.

I'm offended when people

disrespects a nice investment when subjected

by callous sales pitches.

Now that we've got that insight, it's time to start asking some tough questions of the millions of people across North America who consider themselves victims of the latest round of market carnage. Or rather, it's time those people started asking tough questions of themselves. Biggest of all: who is really, ultimately, responsible for the losses they have suffered over the past year?

Right now there is a true, living wallow of investors anger winding across Canada. The participants are the roughly 1,800 individual "small investors" holding over \$160 million in so-called asset-backed commercial paper, or ABCP. These are short-term notes that pay out a better interest rate than government bonds, and are generally backed by cash flows from things like car loans and mortgages. They're widely considered solid, lasting, safe investments. Or at least, they were, until last August when the U.S. housing market wretchedly went freefall, people began defaulting on mortgages, banks began losing billions of dollars and Canada's \$14 billion ABCP market practically collapsed.

Big financial institutions agreed to create the ABCP market to facilitate a corporate panic, and now Purdy Crawford is leading a committee to restrict the ABCP market and try to salvage something from a gross mistake. His plan, which goes to an all-investor vote on April 25, would convert the finance notes into long-term bonds. If you can wait for several years you should get all or most of your money back. If you need to cash out immediately, you're likely to get a lot less.

Newspaper investors, holding a full page of this paper, are understandably angry. They bought an investment they were told was solid, and a year-plus, it wasn't. They are threatening to sue the debt. Some have started about selling their voting rights to a U.S. villain fund, believing it might be able to extract better terms. Others have taken steps toward a class action lawsuit against the brokers that sold them ABCP.

They want to drive the best deal they can get, and no one can blame them for that. But listen to the complaints that are emerging from these investors and you get an idea how these people got into hot water in the first place. The number one grievance, the accusation denting the remunerating plan are too long, too complicated, and a full sheet of offering a full refund including a letter of apology. As one aggrieved investor told *Curve* recently: "I don't want my money back when I'm 80 years old. I want it back now."

The problem, as you can imagine, is when those introductory notes expired a year or two after signing, and suddenly people realized the underlying financial reality they couldn't afford it when house after all. Like the little guys holding ABCP, some were knowingly deceived, others made a bad bet, and some figured all those long documents were just too long and confusing to read.

And to my knowledge, there is a place, according to Capital Hill that would help American home owners maximize their mortgages (with the help of government money) if they signed up within the past three years and if their job means earned 40 per cent of their household income. It is essentially a publicly funded mass refinancing for people who made a very bad investment decision.

The economic argument is thus: by saving people from the trauma of foreclosure, you will bolster consumer confidence and send the much-matter consequence of forming the whole house of cards-collapse. That may be. But what message does that send to the guy who, five years ago, looked at the numbers and realized he couldn't afford that first home-mortgage. He read the fine print and understood the mortgage for what they were. He bought a smaller house, lived within his means, and will still have to pay his mortgage even while the U.S. government uses tax money to bail out his neighbour who gets to keep the big house he can't really afford.

I talk with all the ABCP investors and the distressed homeowners the last of late. But some voices impact statements are more honest. There is one: "It's a robbery, there is solid guidance, and then there is robbery. I'll leave it to the individuals involved to decide which camp they fall into."

It's a robbery, and it's a "robust" that caused

all the trouble in the first place.

Well, there was a lot of greed everywhere in recent years. There always is. And it isn't the exclusive domain of guys walking around in \$100,000 suits.

The root of this problem is an attack on the border, where a very similar dynamic is playing out in the world of the savings and housing crisis. Pressure is building on Congress and on the presidential candidates to endorse a shadow package for homeowners who concern with an estimated price tag of \$100 billion. That's what it'll cost to turn the mess left by so-called "home ownership." For a few years there, lowest-rate notes sparked a building boom and a leading theory by financial institution analysts had us people with distant credit ratings, for rock bottom introductory rates, with no money down. Sufficiently people with 40,000 in annual income were snapping up \$400,000 homes.

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It's a robbery, and it's a "robust" that caused

The Fed's transparency paradox

BY JASON KIRBY • It's a cornerstone of good governance: transparency equals accountability. The brighter the light that can be shone on those in power, the better off we'll be. Which is why, for 15 years, transparency of earnings within U.S. Federal Reserve committee members' debate and interest rates have been made public. Given the huge impact U.S. rate changes have on the global economy, it makes perfect sense that those wielding such power face scrutiny.

Or does it? It turns out when committee members know they'll be put under the microscope, they clean up and see the line. That's the finding of a new study published in the latest issue of *The Economic Journal*. Prior to 1995, transcripts of meetings were private. Starting that year, transcripts were released after a five-year delay. The researchers found that also when the lack of lagging began to decline, fewer "off the cuff" observations were made and there was a reluctance to disagree with then-chairman Alan Greenspan. "Since 1995 there has been an increased tendency for committee members to present the set of pre-prepared statements that may result in less rate deliberation," the researchers found. "While transparency in policy-

making has increased, it has done so at the expense of an intrinsic phase of the decision-making process that made the 'inside' of a 'meeting' something like the 'staple' or an 'urge' associated with fear and anxiety," says the study.

It was introduced in the early 1980s, McDonald's has become a minor cultural icon. Several scholars like Daniel Goleman have described it as a "near-end, goal-oriented" sandwich that made "success in the fast-food underground" of the last 30s. As Nato hosts moved down to Belgrade in 1999, thus reviving Thomas Friedman's theory that no two countries with a McDonald's location would ever go to war, Salma Jahan Poulosek argued that owing to McDonald's was the real generator of peace. And in a 2003 episode of *The Simpsons*, Homer abandoned his job and family to travel America in search of Kenny McCormick's Kenny Ranch, McDonald's American fast-food kingdom where he based the idea, launching a series of "McDonald's Farewell Tours" and creating the "Solemnizing Big Farmers Association of America" website.

But McDonald's is big business, too. News of an impending collapse helped spark a rally in its stock during the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. And McDonald's Canada spokesman Louis Pigeon says current sales in Canada are up 14 per cent since last year. Still, he gives a little hope of a permanent fix. Ken Wang, a marketing professor at Queen's University, suggests that McDonald's "high visibility factor" there can be "no reasonable demand for" and limited room for growth. As such, Pigeon suggests you "run and not walk" to your nearest golden arches if you want to catch McDonald's before it disappears again. At 3,156 outlets, 4,900 stores (of 5,100), 13,000 ring of sodas with fries and a Coke, you might want to run home too. ■

RELEASING Fed transcripts to the public has only reduced debate

making us have many important benefits, Americans should also be given to the possibility that robbery might rule debate.

In Canada, the savings of bank of Canada interest rate decisions are kept private. But there have been calls for that to change. What this may highlight is the paradox of transparency—raise rates if always the best. With many analysts blaming the housing bubble on Greenspan's decision to keep interest rates too low, for so long, the question arises: would he have faced more push back from other committee members if their news were kept private?

Unravelling the mystery of the McRib



McRib: Salty snack, cultural icon, and commodities market base

BY CHRIS GELLEY • Behold, the McRib: predict, onion, and barbecue sauce atop a rectangular barbecue pork patty with rib-shaped pretzels, served up on a "house-style bun." It's, er, regularly, a ridiculous product. But it's back at Canadian McDonald's locations for the first time in more than a decade—despite its iconic popularity.

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The biology linking sex and money

BY STEVE MAICHE • The financial markets has long been noted for its testosterone-laden atmosphere. Think of the trading floor where workplace battles resemble that of locker rooms, or the culture among investment bankers who like to celebrate with studs, suits, cigars and male members of the hierarchy. Critics and participants alike have long put this down to the inevitable dynamics of a highly competitive, male-dominated industry, where being a "top gun" is both expected and easily rewarded. But a new research at Stanford University suggests there may be psychological and biological reasons for the macho culture.

The researchers studied 15 heterosexual men in Stanford and compared their buying behaviour in a random choice game. The study found that men rate men with a more aggressive and dominant behaviour as more attractive.

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A NEW STUDY shows easy money prompt men to take financial risks

MEGANNE APRIL 10 2008



How vitamins can be hazardous to your health

BY CATHY GULLI

Convention says calcium is good for bones. But if you read recent research, you might never take calcium supplements again. They may increase the risk of heart attack in healthy postmenopausal women, according to a report by scientists at the University of Auckland in [January's *British Medical Journal*]. Interestingly, postmenopausal women are probably the group most likely taking calcium pills to prevent osteoporosis, which makes bones more brittle. Then, in March, the Harvard Health Letter

announced that "high calcium may not prevent fractures." Confused?

Concerns like this only add to the unnecessary flow of contradictory studies released daily in a stampede just about everybody, says Garry Harrington, of the Ottawa-based NutriSupplements Drug Manufacturers Association, whose members include vitamin and mineral supplement makers. "Health Canada struggles with it. Manufacturers struggle with it. There are even individual scientists who struggle," he continues. Harrington's warning: "Pay attention. Don't take anything for granted."

Against the spectrum, most nutrition experts agree that vitamin and mineral pills—even ones that hold tremendous potential and do provide benefits—can actually be harmful too. Most damage happens when they're consumed in excess—or doses 10 or more times higher than the recommended daily intake. Even multivitamins can contain very high doses of certain nutrients, as vitamins and minerals are collectively known. Nutri-

supplements "can have very negative human consequences" if misused, says Bill Jeffery of the Centre for Science in the Public Interest in Ottawa.

The evidence is mounting. In January, the Mayo Clinic declared that certain nutrient pills such as beta-carotene and vitamin E either had no effect or appeared to increase cancer incidence and mortality. The U.S. National Institutes of Health, in a 2006 study, concluded in part that the safety and quality of over-the-counter and natural supplements are inadequate, and uncovered "distracting evidence of risk." Last year, Canada's national health watchdog was taking some nutrient supplements off the market. And back in 2003, the U.K.'s Food Standards Agency studied 16 vitamins and minerals and found that one could cause cancer, one could induce "irreversible, harmful effects," and three could have "detrimental effects."

These cautions come at a time when vitamin/mineral supplement use is a high-profile half of Canadians' habits: take a look at the past records, according to Statistics Canada, and more than one in three children have an. Thermometer-like plummeting popularity of these popular indicators that people are increasingly taking their health into their own hands. With the online Canadian nowodesis, who can blame them? But many don't eat as well as they'd like, nutrition seems to be a topic. With recent less-rosy reports that this nutrition isn't everyone's cup of tea, it's no wonder the nutrient market in Canada is worth at least \$60 billion and that year, says Harrington.

What's causing, however, may be bad news: Taking too much or too much of just one, such as vitamin C, can lead to an overdose that causes diarrhea, in more serious cases, kidney damage. It can reduce liver damage. Moreover, some nutrients such as E and K should be taken in combination with particular medications, including the widely prescribed blood thinner warfarin. Even a history of smoking or kidney disease can put people at more risk for diarrhea or death if they take some vitamins in isolation. Many people don't even talk with their doctor about the nutrients they're taking. Instead they self-prescribe. And that may be the last study that considers the fact that got them started on vitamin supplements in the first place.

Of course, when a person suffers a real deficiency of vitamins or minerals, the use of supplements can produce remarkable results, says Susan Whiting, a member of Dietitians of Canada, and professor and head of nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan. It's universally agreed upon that pregnant women should consume folic acid to prevent birth defects such as spina bifida. And as dangerous conditions such as Canada's in the west, the case for vitamin D-supplementation seems to make sense. Some people in the health care community even believe the use of vitamins and minerals at high doses in the future of personalized medicine, which will see supplements used as drugs in a targeted way.

The reality, however, is that for many people, deciding what vitamins or mineral pill to take is an unduly arbitrary process. Supplements, like everything else, can and out of fashion regularly. And some of the public, adds Jeffery, seem to be logically predisposed to believe that some claim must be true, "over there there is little or no scientific proof." Barry Pever, an Ontario pharmacist and director of practice director at the Canadian Pharmacists Association, says that most of us don't use health products that come without a prescription, especially vitamins, as having potentially negative effects. "You can buy them over-the-counter, they're natural. How harmful can they be?" he quips.

His response is blunt. "Warfarin is natural, it's derived from clover. Aspirin comes from willow bark. If you take enough, you'll break it." The bottom line for Pever: "Natural does not equal safe."

Quarter the last century or more, several countries have been heralded with their disease-free status. "There's a long history," says Dr. John Swartzberg, a professor of pediatrics at University of California, Berkeley. Women's health was likely to lead to cancer and should be avoided. A few years later, a scientist at the University of California, Berkeley published a study in the *Journal of Human Reproduction* that found high levels of tamoxifen were linked to breast cancer. What's a guy to do?

"There's a lot of confusion out there," says Dr. Douglas Seely, a naturopathic doctor in Toronto and director of research and clinical epidemiology at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine. Nutrient supplements are rarely dangerous, Seely says, but

vitamin C is a case for the common cold; in fact, he took a daily hit of it. Yet to this day, there's no good proof to corroborate his claim, as a recent analysis of a study of existing research by Australian and French researchers showed in 2003. (High-level studies *haven't been done*.)

Given the 1980s *vitamin C* craze, it's understandable why C and breast cancer were all the rage with practitioners that they could prevent cancer, says Susan Whiting. As it turned out, lets alone has been lowered. French and American researchers recently increased the incidence of lung cancer among smokers, former smokers, asbestos workers and others at high risk. "What's that about?"

'Supplements should be treated as a form of medication, and used in a very targeted, evidence-based way'

Swartzberg, a physician, remembers thinking that then, many cardiologists had been recommending high doses of vitamin E to patients, and didn't even know. Doctors, caught off guard by new and startling studies, could only do one thing. "We regretted," says Swartzberg.

To make matters worse, a meta-analysis in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* in 2005 showed that high doses of vitamin E—400 international units (the measure of potency) or more—a day—could boost all-cause mortality, that is, especially in women. "You can bring them to euphoria, they're natural. How harmful can they be?" he quips.

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"There's a lot of confusion out there," says Dr. Douglas Seely, a naturopathic doctor in Toronto and director of research and clinical epidemiology at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine. Nutrient supplements are rarely dangerous, Seely says, but

that doesn't mean there's no risk. He is calling for more research into complementary medicine. "It's important to not believe every (thing you hear)," says Levy, who sits on Health Canada's Expert Advisory Committee for the Vigilance of Health Products.

For guidance, consumers again turn to such as the U.S. National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, or the Center for Science in the Public Interest. Berkeley and Harvard just issued guidelines. And Health Canada's Natural Health Product Regulations publishes online "monographs" of nutrients that outline the purpose, direction for use, recommended dosage and risks for each with the U.S. Institute of Medicine.

"There are reliable sources," says industry rep Hargrove. The trouble may be choosing one since they don't always agree. The Natural Health Product Regulations, established in 2004, help make sense of emerging science because the monographs can be continually updated, he notes. While individual studies raise concerns, to establish risks conclusively requires a lot of research and time for consensus to build.

So a what do—or should—we know about the dangers of nutrient deficiencies? There's little data on how many people have gotten sick or died from excess intake generally, and pharmaceutical Power says it's not necessarily common. But taking a multivitamin in combination with other nutrient supplements can lead to an overdose, he explains, and "it can be potentially harmful." This is especially easy with fat-soluble vitamins such as A and D because they accumulate in the body.

Vitamin C may cause burning sensation, adds Power, or diarrhea. "Too much vitamin C can change the colour of your skin," says Jeffery of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, raising concerns: money doesn't enter five with your body's ability to metabolize and contribute to kidney stones. Excess magnesium can cause diarrhea as well. So calcium, plus magnesium and potassium, too much Vitamin E can cause blurred vision, headache, dizziness and, of course, diarrhea. Sound bad?

There's worse: Effects zinc may impair blood cell formation, depress the immune system and reduce "good" cholesterol levels, not to mention sterility with copper deficiency. (It also can upset your stomach.) B6 can induce nerve damage if over-consumed. And too much vitamin A can cause liver damage and birth defects, besides headaches, skin and hair loss.

Despite the danger, we over-consume nutrients.

SOURCES:

University of California, Berkeley Wellness Report (BWR); Eating for Optimal Health 2008; Health Canada's Multi-Vitamin/Dietary Supplement Monograph, Oct. 22, 2007 (HCA); Institute of Medicine (IOM); Dietary Reference Intake Tables, Berries, Vitamins

SUPPLEMENT

BETA CAROTENE

FOLIC ACID

NIA-CIN

A

B⁶

B¹²

C

D

BENEFITS

Helps maintain vision, immune function, bones, teeth, skin, membranes. (HCA)

May help slow age-related macular degeneration. May prevent against heart disease, some cancers. (BWR)

Reduces risk of neural tube birth defects. (HCA, BWR)

Helps red blood cells form, précis in metabolism. (HCA)

May help prevent some cancers, enhance cognitive function when taken with vitamin B12. (BWR)

Helps metabolize fatty acids, carbs, proteins. (HCA)

Helps maintain skin, nerves, digestive system. (HCA)

May raise low cholesterol. Used by people with high triglyceride levels. (BWR)

Helps maintain good vision, immune function, bones, skin, membranes. (HCA, BWR, IOM)

Needed for normal reproduction. (BWR, IOM)

May inhibit development of some tumours. (BWR)

Helps metabolize fatty acids, carbs, proteins, tissue formation. (HCA)

Helps immune system production of serotonin, dopamine. (BWR)

Helps red blood cells form. (HCA, BWR)

Helps metabolize carbs, fats, proteins. (HCA)

Helps wound healing, tissue formation. (HCA, BWR)

Helps maintain teeth, bones, gums. (HCA)

Helps iron absorption, immune system, production of collagen, serotonin, helps prevent bruising. Neutralizes free radicals. (BWR)

Helps with the absorption, use of calcium and glucose (HCA, BWR, IOM)

Helps maintain seeds and tissues. (HCA, BWR)

May reduce risk of cancer, heart disease, hypertension, osteoporosis. (BWR)

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RISKS

May increase the risk of lung cancer in at-risk populations such as smokers, asbestos workers. (BWR)

May cause neurological complications in people with B12 deficiency. Because data on adverse effects are limited, caution may be warranted. (HCA)

People with diabetes, gout, peptic ulcers, liver disease, glaucoma should consult doctor. (BWR)

Too much may cause flushing, gastrointestinal distress. (HCA)

Too much can cause liver damage. (BWR, IOM)

Too much can cause head aches, hair loss, study skin, birth defects. Over time, too much can increase risk of lig fractures due to osteoporosis in people past menopause and over 50. (BWR)

Too much over time may cause nerve damage. (BWR)

Because data on adverse effects are limited, caution may be warranted. (BWR)

May cause diarrhea, abdominal pain, joint aches, muscle cramps, kidney stones. (HCA, BWR)

High doses may provide no benefit. Inconsistent results show: prevents heart disease, cataracts, heart disease, the common cold. (BWR)

Too much may cause hypertension. (HCA)

SUPPLEMENT

E

K

CAL-CIUM

IRON

MAG-NESIUM

SELE-NIUM

BENEFITS

As an antioxidant, neutralizes damaging free radicals in cells, form, and the body use vitamin K. May reduce blood's ability to clot, decreasing the risk of heart attack. May help reduce inflammatory processes. (BWR)

Helps develop and maintain bones. (HCA, BWR, IOM)

Helps reduce risk of birth defects. (BWR, IOM)

May help bone strength in the elderly. (BWR)

Helps maintain bones. (HCA, BWR, IOM)

May prevent tooth decay. (HCA)

Helps blood clotting, regulates muscle contraction, nerve impulses. Helps cartilage withstand pressure, may help prevent osteoporosis. (BWR)

Helps red blood cells form and function. (HCA, BWR)

May cause constipation, diarrhea, vomiting. (HCA, BWR)

May lead to headaches, sexual dysfunction, joint pain, diabetes, hair loss. In people who have hemochromatosis, a hereditary disorder that causes them to absorb too much iron, should not take more than 100 mg for those with sexual dysfunction, joint pain, headaches and dizziness.

Helps metabolize carbs, fats, proteins. Helps maintain bone, teeth, muscle function. (HCA, BWR)

Helps nerve function, bones. May help prevent hypertension, diabetes, coronary artery disease. (BWR)

People with a history of iron overload should consult doctor. (BWR)

Too much can be harmful. (BWR)

Too much can lead to hair and nail brittleness and loss. (BWR)

Helps maintain immune function, skin tissue, bone formation, metabolism of protein, fats, proteins. (HCA)

Regulates cell division, growth, weight gain, bone formation. May protect against age-related macular degeneration, help shorten colds. (BWR)

May cause leg cramps. (HCA, BWR, IOM)

Causes may impair blood cell formation, depress immune system, reduce good cholesterol, cause varicose veins. Zinc may cause loss of smell. (BWR)

eat sufficient levels of a "whole-foods-not-oil" mentality that experts say is particularly dangerous. North America, since 1997, Health Canada and the Institute of Medicine have defined "upper tolerable levels" for most vitamins and minerals, which indicate the maximum amount that can be consumed without adverse effect. But those don't usually appear on labels, and most people aren't aware they even exist.

Also unknown to consumers are the bad combinations of nutrients supplements and prescription medications. "Vitamin K," says Power, "has interactions with blood thinning medications. It can increase the anti-clotting effect so you're more prone to bleeding." And calcium, he says, can prevent the body from absorbing medications, including commonly prescribed ones such as omeprazole (Capryl and Pantacol).

Even people who aren't on doctor-prescribed drugs but have a particular medical history can run into trouble when they take certain supplements. According to Health Canada and the Berkley Wellness Letter, if you have kidney disease, magnesium isn't for you. Selection's not great for people who have had non-cancers than cancer, and should be avoided if you have diabetes, says Power. "People with liver disease or glaucoma, and people who have hemochromatosis, a hereditary disorder that causes them to absorb too much iron, should not take more than 100 mg for those with sexual dysfunction, joint pain, headaches and dizziness."

One of the most risky aspects of vitamin and mineral supplementation is that some people are sufficient or don't believe that it's important to talk to their medical doctor about natural health products before taking them, according to a 2005 Ipsos Reid survey for Health Canada. Dr. Larry Reynolds, a Winnipeg family physician and professor at the University of Manitoba, says that physicians tend to be suspicious or dismissive of alternative health models, and supplement use can trigger a conflict between them and their patients. "There are many people who are understandably afraid of doctors," he says. "We can be scary, and the diagnosis

isn't always good news." In fact, he says, people self prescribe based on print media (76 per cent) or info from friends, family and colleagues (46 per cent), revealed a survey by the Canadian Council of Food and Nutrition. That's scary because serious conditions may go untreated for too long, says Reynolds, though he acknowledges patients' desire to feel independent. "They say, 'I'm taking weight and I have aortal blood clots, so I'll take extra zinc,'" because they think it's an indigestion problem, he explains. "But we want to make sure that's not cause of

the stomach or bowel. That's why it's important that we work together."

At St. Michael's, a private medical clinic in Toronto, the use of vitamins and mineral supplements is an integral part of keeping patients healthy. Its team of physicians, nutritionists, fitness trainers and psychologists practice nutrigenomics, which uses nutrient and food-allergy blood tests and a computerized diagnostic model to determine each patient's risk for diseases and nutrient deficiencies. That information gets translated into a tailored menu of high-dose, highly bioavailable (very absorbable) vitamins and mineral supplements that are taken for a time, then reviewed and adjusted depending on changing needs.

"Supplements," says St. Michael's co-founder and chief medical officer Dr. Elaine Chan, "should be treated as a form of medicine, and used in a very targeted, evidence-based way." She believes that the evolution of personalized medicine will be rooted in this kind of preventative approach to health care using supplementary nutrients and lifestyle. When we agree that vitamins and mineral pills can be unusually beneficial, "If you are low in something, then you are going to eat more, you'll have a ravenous," she explains. "For every major deficiency, the nutrient has a wonderful effect."

But for most of us, the kind of complex and intensive care offered at St. Michael's is unknown; three-quarters of us aren't even able to see a physician the same day we're sent out. And considering the current doctor shortage, many consumers don't see much personal medical advice becoming common any time soon. Reynolds says that his performance is to focus on the known needs of patients rather than on this growing area of medicine. "It does hold promise," he says, "but we're not there yet."

The biggest news in nutrients lately has been vitamin D. Newspapers have run stories under headlines such as "D for disease-free." The list of terrible things that most studies suggest could be cured—if only people would consume enough D pills—includes diabetes, osteoporosis, multiple sclerosis, and cancer of the breast, colon, rectum, and prostate. "It doesn't seem to be the most positive vitamin we've seen ever," says Harrington about D's potential role in cancer prevention.

Last June, the Canadian Cancer Society began urging adults to consume during the fall and winter 1,000 international units of vitamin D supplements every day—a dose higher than even Health Canada has rec-

ommended. Several months earlier, the government agency offered its own endorsement in the latest edition of the Food Guide; it advises, for the first time, recommendations that men and women over 50 take 400 IU of vitamin D daily. (Health Canada says it's premature to increase the recommended nutrient, and won't change it until the Institute of Medicine does too.)

Considering the promise, some doctors are understandably excited. "The more I read about vitamin D, the more I get excited," says Welling. She counts herself among the believers, but a "moderate" one because, she says, we're often "get set up to work at all conditions. It's this enormous enthusiasm without tempering it a little bit."

That's where we get into an interestingly relevant issue, says Chan, who cautions people to consider many variables when reading about the latest research. "We say that all the time in our clinic, one size doesn't fit all," she says. Even in recommendations about vitamin D, the Cancer Society points out that people who are older or have dark skin should consider taking the supplement throughout the year rather than just in the fall and winter because they are at higher risk of deficiency.

In the absence of a medical consultation, some people are taking vitamins and minerals when they don't need them or taking the wrong ones. Considerably people would benefit from a multivitamin, such as those who can't afford plenty of high-quality food—despite any supplements. The National Institute of Health study that showed the amount and quality of nutrigenomics is insufficient also found that, "Ironically, populations at high-risk for nutritional inadequacy ... are the least likely to use such products."

Meanwhile, all these healthy, active, educated people with enough income to purchase good food and lots of nutrient-supplying exercise may be "just throwing their money out the window," says Shanti Desai, a registered holistic nutritionist in North York, Ont., who owns a raw health clinic. "People run blindly to pick up everything and they don't know enough about it. And it's not necessarily going to do anything for them. We've

become so reliant on taking the quick fix."

Sick people are also increasingly relying on nutrient supplements, especially when their doctor's prescriptions don't seem effective or when they're on a long wait list. A 2001 study in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Association* revealed that adults with cancer or chronic conditions had a higher prevalence of supplement use than those reporting no illness. "It can happen with people who may be sceptical of the health care system, or who have a condition where the health care system might not be so helpful," says physician Reynolds. "They're understandably desperate for alternatives to symptoms or for a cure, and if traditional medicine isn't working, then it's understandable they

I'm from the industry and I believe this: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is'

would look for healing elsewhere."

So what are consumers supposed to do? The last word from the pharmaceutical experts appears to be that if anyone wants to get or stay healthy, "the first thing people should do is eat well," says Welling. That means whole foods, advises Desai, that are consumed in a form most similar to how they grew if that's happening and a person is healthy. Then a naturopathic doctor, she says, then may not be needed for supplementation, but that's not always possible, notes Welling. And there may not be the only factor to consider. So, many of them say, if someone is going to take any overprescription pills, it's important the talk with a doctor or pharmacist—who is typically approachable and knowledgeable—if not a naturopathic doctor or the dentist too.

And the clearest about the latest, greatest research: "New information is always inflammation. It stands to be countered," says Harrington. "I don't like the industry and I believe this if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is." In an apt metaphor for the conflicting, contradictory nature of vitamins and mineral supplements, he adds, "Then again, wonderful things can happen, and to quote that would be equally foolish."

TONICS

CLEAR THE AIR WITH YOUR GRUBBY HAIR

Science is learning that dirty, greasy hair is efficient in absorbing ozone. "Ground-level ozone can cause respiratory problems and can even shorten life," says Dr. Michael D. Johnson, an environmental health scientist from the University of Massachusetts. In a study of hair samples from 24 people, the team found that it absorbs one to three times more ozone than freshly shaven hair. The difference, apart from offending people, is that dirty hair can produce other lung irritants, such as 4-oxopentenol.

MACLEAN'S SPORT

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MORE PLAYOFF PREDICTIONS ON PAGE 2

PAGE 4 IS IT TIME TO GIVE UP ON BASEBALL?

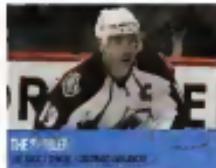


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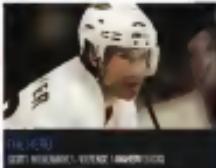
SAUCED UP AN
IRON HORSE BIKE

STANLEY'S PLAYERS

SEAN KELLY, NICK BOZAK, AND JEFF FERGUSON ARE THE THREE CANDIDATES WHO ARE GOING TO TRY AND WIN THE STANLEY CUP.



No one will be further up to snore the Avalanche in the first round of the playoffs. They have moved up, and kept on the heat. John Tortorella has found his way to the top. Now that he has his team well-leading in every way. Now that he has added the likes of Peter Forsberg and Adam Foote, two original cast members from the team's glory days together, the Avalanche don't have any sprains, and their captains could be a dangerous follow to an up-and-coming puck to drop.



One could hardly say Nagy has not already been a hero to the Ducks, both last spring, when he led them to their first Stanley Cup victory, and this past season when he returned to help the team navigate what was looking to be a very ordinary season. Since his return, the Ducks have steadily improved to the point where, coming injury, they may be considered a serious contender. And let's not forget that Nagy has had the second-best record in the league this year. If only Kelly or Bozak will be a dangerous follow to an up-and-coming puck to drop.



It's not going to be hard to figure for the Senators, who, looking for a hard-hitting, back-swinging Free-Polymer, just needed to bring their coach. A big lesson for their personnel has been that, while their personnel has been quite good, and Emery has provided more than his share of off-ice discipline. If Emery is great in the playoffs, the Senators have a chance. If he is not, or if he is also disappointing, then so is the blame for everything that has gone bad for the Senators this year. Will he be letting his stars come May?



THE PAPER
JOHN HENRY WANTS CUP CHAMPS



THE REST
JOHN HENRY WANTS CUP CHAMPS



The Pens were better than they should make a little better at the playoffs. But it will only happen if Iglesias is scoring. When he scores, they win. When he doesn't, they generally struggle. Darling, the goalie is, however, for a big chunk of the Cup-chase. He is, he is. He is fast-twitch, and sure about to go to dangerous parts of the ice to score, and he is shown he is a big-time big-game player.

Post is really a polite description. Avery can not only understand the opportunity, with his consistent energy and his determined play. The most part is that he is a good player, which is impressive. Team is not many. Avery has proved over the past two seasons that he is the player that plays the Rangers. He has sacrificed the team through the addition of Mathieu Schneider and Todd Bertuzzi. As a result, the Ducks might be even stronger than a year ago, and one of the most important players will be well-versed leading the players to championship.

THE FINAL FOUR

OUR PREDICTIONS FOR THE STANLEY CUP

SEAN KELLY

NEW JERSEY DEVILS
New Jersey currently has a coach in Sean Kelly. In the past, the most remarkable achievement of a coach in the Devils' history was the ability to win the Stanley Cup. Kelly has done that, and he has done it in a way that has not been done before. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice.

MONTREAL CANADIENS

The Canadiens have a coach in Sean Kelly. Kelly has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice. His record is 10-10-10, and he has won the Stanley Cup twice.

NICK BOZAK

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WINNER: ANAHEIM DUCKS

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THE KEEP-YOUR-HEAD-UP NHL PLAYOFF QUIZ

The temperature climbs, BBQs roar in a million backyards, shorts are back in season, and all across our great land, red-headed people prepare to go bald-headed. It can only mean one thing: the NHL playoffs are once again upon us. Who will hold Lord Stanley's Cup high and end the fog of a muckering season in June? Only the future can tell. In the meantime, get in a red tin and quench your thirst for hockey glory with the All-NHL Super-hard-hitting NHL playoff quiz. By Andrew Clark



1 What had-much-publication-sensation scored an incredible 10 goals with playoff games?
 A) Steve "The Debonair" Emery
 B) Rick "Mr. Z" Zakrajsek
 C) Mark "The Rocket" Recchi
 D) Mark "General R.R." Recchi
 E) Steve "Savage" Berra

2 What had-a-headache-for everything that has gone bad for the Senators this year? Will he be a
 A) Sean Kelly
 B) Nick Bozak
 C) Jeff Ferguson
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BONUS QUESTION:
Who was the greatest NHL player of all time?
 A) Wayne Gretzky
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Saddle up

Bikes that compete and commute

Ack anyone who knows bikes, and they'll tell you that Iron Horse is a long-standing and trusted name in mountain bikes. SportChek is proud to be the exclusive retailer of Iron Horse in Canada, carrying a range of Iron Horse bikes from hardtail to dual suspension bikes in both 24" and 26" frame heights.

In September of 2003, Iron Horse downhill team members Sam Hill of Australia and Sabrina Jonner of France captured the UCI World Championships for the second straight year in the Elite Downhill World Championships in Fort William, Scotland! Both Sam and Sabrina rode the Iron Horse Sunday across the finish line.

The Sunday is Iron Horse's signature downhill racing bike and has changed the face of downhill racing by putting a World Cup-level, pro-type machine into the hands of the fans and riders themselves. With SportChek's Iron Horse Special Order program, you can mount the very same series of bike as ridden by these two elite downhill athletes. No assembly required – we can take care of that for you.



Licence to thrill

Wolverine 2.0 \$1199

Iron Horse has been in the mountain bike biz for a long time and in addition to its fierce crew of aggressive downhill racing bikes, they also offer solid off-road bikes for the budget conscious thrill-seeker. The Wolverine 3 is a rugged yet lightweight hardtail bike with Marzocchi front suspension in the front end for customizing to the tune of 130mm of travel as you career down the trail. It is a clean, fast ride for pants who enjoy the classic ride of a hardtail bike and it's only available at SportChek.



Maverick 3.0 \$1199

The Maverick line of bikes is designed for more advanced trail and cross-country riders, and people just branching into the sport of mountain biking. The Maverick 3.0 features many of the same features you'll find in any high-end Iron Horse bike – including a front end dropper, SR Suntour 100mm suspension fork, Shimano Altus gear drivetrain and disc brakes – but with a more affordable price tag.



IRONHORSE
 BICYCLE COMPANY

Summer fit fixes

Peel yourself out of your hammock

There is something so to be said for the cold weather and short daylight hours in the winter that makes us want to head into a warm yoga studio or a brightly lit gym. Once things start heating up outdoors, though, many of our fitness programs cool off. The summer season offers up a lot of warm-weather indulgences that can potentially send your personal fitness program into a tailspin. Luckily, for every summer time no-no, there's a reliable fitness fix that will keep you on track.



1. **Adidas Adizero Barricade 6 Running Shoe** \$119. This open and exceptional runner is a腋窝 features the ultimate in high-light technology to bring you one of the fastest pieces of footwear available. If that weren't enough, there's also the supreme ventilation offered by a faster ClimateCool system keeping your feet cool and dry this summer.



Colours may vary by location



2. **Nike+ iPod Nano 3rd Gen** \$119.99. If you can't muster yourself to run yourself up into a Nike+ iPod fit, this device sends a signal that's easy to catch through your run while you listen to your favorite tunes to keep track of your workout progress from week to week and even keep track of all the calories you've burnt off.



Mostways, festivals, street vendors, ballpark... Whenever you go, there are hot dogs tempting your willpower. Hot dogs with cheese, hot dogs with chili... even specialty hot dogs topped with potato chips and fried eggs. Fancy dogs aside, a regular old wiener with all the trimmings add in around 600 calories.

Fitness Fix: Avoiding or walking

Get out of that loaded hot dog, walk up your numbers and hit the pavement. One hour of moderate walking with a couple of stops thrown in can burn close to 300 calories. Crank up the tempo and turn your walk into a jog, and you can burn off that whole smokie and then some— one hour of moderate jogging burns about 600 calories.



3. **New Balance 800 Men's Running Shoe** \$109. A high-arch supportive walking shoe designed for hot-weather walking, this shoe offers the Medial Post on the inside edge of the shoe to help prevent heel from "rolling" as you walk. This shoe features All-Terrain cushioning in both heel and forefoot for exceptional shock absorption. A comfortable shoe made specifically for walking, it's great for long walks or as a milder alternative to jogging.

Summer indulgence #2: beers on a patio...

A cold pint of beer or a slushy cocktail on a patio sounds pretty much like just what the doctor ordered for winter-weary Canadians on a hot summer's day. The calories in an alcoholic beverage—or a non-alcoholic, that's correction—are what are often referred to in the nutrition world as "empty calories." We get very little actual nutrition from that type of beverage, and they pack a big punch in terms of total calorie count. Plus, calories from a fratelli tend to settle in fat around our midsections—this is where the term "beer belly" derives.

Fitness Fix: Yoga and Pilates

Time to get belly fit by perspiring in a little yoga or Pilates. These "mind/body" fitness programs are so named because they involve connecting your mental awareness to your breath and your body, focusing on how your body feels, rather than what it looks like. Believe it or not, a yoga or Pilates workout will kick your butt harder than you might expect. These disciplines are very heavy on core conditioning and will help to flatten up any midsection that's seen more time in the sun than in the mat.



1. **Stamina-Friendly Yoga Mat** \$13.99. Works usually choices for yourself—and for the planet—with this super-lightweight mat, designed especially for Pilates and yoga. Made from Thermal Plastic Elastomer, this mat offers some soft cushioning, a sticky grip for hands and feet during yoga sessions, and is 100% recyclable and biodegradable.

2. **Under Armour Women's UA Strength 2.0 Sports Bra** \$19.99. This sports bra under Arrested Motion quality construction to keep everything safely in place during moderate high- and low-impact activities. It was even rated one of the best sports bras on the market today by *Women's Health* magazine.

Summer indulgence #3: Lounging...

A hammock, a good book and a summer breeze sound like ingredients to the perfect Sunday afternoon. Laying around on your beach chair or hammock doesn't have to be a diet nightmare, as long as you choose healthy snacks and stay hydrated by sipping on water. Too much lounging, though, can reduce your muscle tone—which, in turn, will cause your metabolism to slow down and body fat to increase.

Fitness Fix: 15 minutes of resistance training per day

To combat the risk of increased body fat due to inactivity, keep yourself moving and put your muscles to the test. Even just 15 minutes of resistance training a day is enough to maintain muscle tone. Here's a challenge: every time you get up from your chair to stretch up your desk, crank out ten pushups. By the end of the summer, you'll have developed some nice upper body tone and will have kept your body fat at bay.

3. **The Perfect Pad-up** \$19.99. This fitness pad's rotating handles allow you to do a wide variety of resistance moves such as push-ups, planks or press-ups at a standstill. This unique feature engages more muscle and helps reduce post-street. Works for any fitness level.

4. **6-Demeter Fitness & Fitness Equipment** \$11.99. Finally a strength training exercise you can do from the comfort of your hammock. The GripMaster handles and straps engage each finger individually for superior hand, wrist and forearm control—a unique fitness if you're a giraffe.



Tee up to tourney time

The annual company golf tourney is always a fun event among coworkers. A chance to loosen your tie or let your hair down, and work on that all-important comradery is with the people with whom you share your cubicle space. That is unless you're trying to scale your way up a corporate ladder of some sort. Then it becomes a critical networking tool.

In that case, you'll need to do whatever it takes to impress the boss at your company's tournament. Start with a trip to SportChek to load up on this year's must-have golf gear. This handy study guide will help you come off like the pro-golfer you're promising to be.

TaylorMade R5 XL Driver \$199.99 A forgiving clubface that makes it easy to launch the perfect drive, the R5 will be your go-to driver.

Customfitter head one eye on the ball and one eye on your mind.

TaylorMade R7 XL Hybrid \$129.99 The larger clubhead allows for the R7 XL Hybrid to swing easier, increasing your ball striking frequency on off-center hits.

Swingman Sunglasses \$14.99 Prescription lenses ready with UV400 and LVR protection.

TaylorMade Burner Grill Glove \$14.99 Mesh glove, California leather and CactiTech[®] vents ensure a superior grip and moisture-wicking properties.



1. Callaway Big Bertha Cart Bag \$499.99 - Designed with generous, well-positioned pockets that you can actually get into during play.

2. Odyssey 2-Wheel Cartbag/Cart \$149.99 - This push cart is packed with features looks great and folds down to the size of a flat of beer. Winner of the 2007 Area New Product Award at the PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, Florida.

SPORTCHEK

LYNCHED BY THE LINKS

BY JEFFREY L. COOPER, WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY JEFFREY L. COOPER, PHOTOS BY JEFFREY L. COOPER



THE FRIED CHICKEN TACOS

THE OFFENDER:
Fuzzy Zoeller

THE VICTIM:
Tiger Woods

THE CONTROVERSY

After Woods' victory at the 2007 Masters, Zoeller regrettably said that young phenom was request "fried chicken and collard greens—or whatever the hell they are" at the Champions Diner.

THE REACTION

Tony Fazio, Zoeller's sponsor, Taylor and Knarr, dropped him like a hot, greasy piece of fried chicken.

THE OUTCOME

Woods has only returned to the masters, but Zoeller says it has marked him forever.



STAMPEDE AMERICANS
THE OFFENDER:
The 2007 American Ryder Cup team.

THE VICTIM:
Jose Maria Olazabal and his European teammates

THE CONTROVERSY

After winning green the Asian Tour in 2006, Singh was accused of shooting his scorecard at the earholes, the American players, along with their families and wives, boorishly returned onto the green as Olazabal was about to putt.

THE REACTION

Olazabal missed his putt, and the Americans won the Ryder Cup.

THE OUTCOME

After struggling for years to find a way back to professional golf, Singh eventually made it to the PGA tour and briefly became the world's top-ranked player in 2004.



CREATIV ACCOUNTING

THE OFFENDER:
Vijay Singh

THE VICTIM

The 2007 European Ryder Cup team.

THE CONTROVERSY

While discussing the challenges of beating Tiger Woods, Tighman jokingly suggested on this Internet that his younger opponent "just has a bushy tail."

THE REACTION
Tighman issued a public apology and was suspended by the Golf Channel for two weeks.

THE OUTCOME
Woods fought his last Masters at Sherwood compared Tighman to shock-jock Don Imus, who was fired for calling the Rutgers female basketball team a bunch of "sappy-headed b*st."



THE VICTIM:
Tiger Woods

THE CONTROVERSY
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HOW TO BEAT TIGER WOODS—WITHOUT THE LYNCHING PART

By Ursula Roemer



Employ professional
Tiger-batters Siegfried
and Roy to throat-hem
off his game.



Negotiate a sponsorship deal for
Tiger behind his back for Dyson
Vacuum's new Sports line.



Deny him of his natural habitat
by reforesting championship golf
courses and gated estate
communities.

KING OF THE CURL

BRUCE LINDENBERG'S 16-YEAR-OLD SON HAS JOINED THE DAD'S
NIFTY SURFING TEAM. HERE'S TO BUD O'BRIEN, YOUNG WORLDS TOP
PROFESSIONAL SURFER. *Photo: Bruce Lindenber*



THE 14-YEAR-OLD turned heads at last year's U.S. Open of surfing, and landed a profile in glossy *Surfer* magazine. Not bad for a Canadian who's the country's top ranked pro at a sport that few people knew existed until recently. He talked to us about growing up on Vancouver Island, his favorite places to surf, and what every newbie surfer needs if you're brave enough to take the plunge.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED? I grew up on Chemainus Beach, near Sooke, B.C. — my dad was one of the original surfers in the area. I started when I was seven. By the time I was 13, I was surfing almost every day and I turned pro when I was 16. I don't think there ever was a point where I decided I was going to become a professional surfer — I just loved being in the water, it's all I wanted to do.

WHEN YOU'RE SURFING ABROAD, HOW DO PEOPLE REACT WHEN THEY FIND OUT YOU'RE CANADIAN? People will act surprised, especially some Americans — they don't realize Canada has a huge coastline and some really great waves. And the water's not that cold. The surf scene here is growing, and I'm seeing more kids get into it at an early age. Hopefully future pros will be able to earn a living from sponsors in Canada.

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS A FIRST-TIME CANADIAN SURFER NEEDS TO KNOW? Wear a wetsuit — in summer, it should be three or four millimetres thick. In winter, it needs to be five to 10 millimetres, and you need a hood, boots and gloves. Your biggest concern is the cold — you need to know when enough is enough. If you're in the water too long without proper equipment, you can get hypothermia pretty easily. And be prepared for a range of weather — the West Coast can go from snow to hail to sun in one day.

DEVRIESS OF SURF-SPIRIT

INDONESIA "The one place in the world every surfer wants to go to is Indonesia," says Devries, "and it's the most popular destination in the world. There are some really great and unique spots here — one issue is usually enough to get you excited."

AFRICA "I enjoy the waves, and this year I'm planning trips to Jeffreys Bay, South Africa, which has only been surfed a few times before. I definitely look for places that are unique and not crowded."

INDIA "It's a lot like the West Coast — the weather can go from 70 degrees to sunny to 100° in one minute."



GIDGET'S REVENGE

ROCK CLOUD www.surfcloud.com
Rock Cloud offers a range of clothing and gear for wave breakers. It's time to turn out of those off-the-wall and traditional — and ride the crest of the wave.

SURF SISTER www.surfsister.com
The latest B.C.-based surf-tastic promos are here. In a supportive, pre-go girl environment, with one-day camps at the lone Pacific Sands Beach Resort in Coquitlam. From \$365.



WAVES CRYSTAL RIVER www.wavescrystal.com
Surf trips perhaps far enough up to the elusive wave at US\$3000 or less, while campers on Papeo Wainoa, known for head-high surf year-round, go for US\$300 and up.

SURF LA SOLAR www.surflasolar.com
Meets at 10:20 each to these high-end "sun-junkies" in Sayulita, Mexico, from November 15, June and on the Bay Formula in June (adults \$1250, kids from US\$24, 800).

SURF LITE www.surfelite.com
The smartest-looking crowd will be coming for lessons and adults in San Diego. Gated, private "wave" lessons for beginner to advanced surfers, sheltered in the beachside pink "Berry Hill." From US\$34,400.



Omni-Shade® is a revolution in sun-protective clothing. The Omni-continental® Shirt with UPF protection effectively blocks 98% of harmful ultraviolet radiation. So you can stay in the sun longer, without all the messy goo. www.columbiasportswear.com/omni-shade.



OMNI-SHADE®
UPF 30+ ULTRAVIOLET PROTECTION FACTOR

 **Columbia**
Sportswear Company

PITCH PERFECT

WITH NEARLY CANADIAN CHAMPION NOW PLAYING, SOCCER TEAMS HIGHLIGHT
WE HAVE OUR SHARE OF TALENT MAKING WAVES AROUND THE GLOBE

DAVID EDGAR

AGE: 19

HOMETOWN: Kitchener, Ont.

POSITION: Defender

CURRENT TEAM: Newcastle United, English Premier League

CLAIM TO FAME: Scored tying goal against Manchester United in his second game with Newcastle's first side this season.

GOODY FACT: Quirky looking though his father thought he was better on the ice than on the pitch, and at 14 moved to England for better coaching.



PAUL STUTTERI

AGE: 30

HOMETOWN: Brampton, Ont.

POSITION: Fullback

CURRENT TEAM: On loan to Fulham from Southampton Hotspur, both of the English Premier League.

CLAIM TO FAME: Played on the biggest stage, the Champions League, for Werder Bremen, a championship side on the German Bundesliga.

GOODY FACT: Attended Clemson University in South Carolina on a soccer scholarship, later played for the Toronto Lynx.

TEAL BUNBURY

AGE: 27

HOMETOWN: Originally from Vancouver

POSITION: Forward

CURRENT TEAM: Shamrock-St. Mary's high school in Burnaby, B.C.

GLAM-TO-FAME: Attracting interest of teams

in the English Premier League.

GOODY FACT: Teal's father, Alan Bunbury, a native of Guyana, is the third-leading scorer in the history of the Canadian national team.

JULIAN DE GUZMAN

AGE: 22

HOMETOWN: Toronto

POSITION: Midfielder

CURRENT TEAM: Deportivo de La Coruña, Spain

CLAIM TO FAME: Most valuable player award at last summer's CONCACAF Gold Cup.

GOODY FACT: His Canadianity regularly in the Spanish league; De Guzman's brother, Jonathan, plays for Peñarol in Uruguay.

OLIVER OCEAN

AGE: 26

HOMETOWN: Brampton, Ont.

POSITION: Forward

CURRENT TEAM: Lillestrøm SK (Norway).

CLAIM TO FAME: A Norwegian team, Odd Grenland, played it an exhibition against Canada's Mercurians and he impressed the opposition so much that they offered him a contract.

GOODY FACT: Played NCAA soccer at a small southern Connecticut university, signed a five-year contract with Lillestrøm in 2005 worth almost \$100,000 a year.

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

Why heading across the Pacific is the Beijing Games this summer could either be the best or worst vacation ever.

Y?

WHY YOU SHOULD GO BEIJING

1. Local spectators have been invited, so crowds aren't sparse and they'll understand the rules of the sport.

2. They've got the day-night difference, women's basketball finally gets Olympic status.

3. Police officers are made to act as referees to go to bed earlier.

4. Like qualifiers improved for next year's games, now it's like eating a fast-food meal.

5. The men's officials are from China—the best-looking ones in the world.

6. Spectators are a mix of tourists, athletes, coaches, showing liquid courage at their country.

7. Chinese will eat your laptop Asian-style.

8. You'll be in the middle of the action.

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ANOTHER WALK IN THE PARK

Well, not exactly, but these marathon races are highly recommended for first-timers.

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL MARATHON

This course, down the coast, winding through Granville Park and Kitsilano is spotter-friendly, so you'll have lots of cheering along the way. You can switch routes on the BC Place Stadium, a big plus if it's raining. May 4, 2008 www.vancouvermarathon.ca

SAN DIEGO ROCK N' ROLL MARATHON

More than 40,000 bands are participating this year to keep you pumped plus hours of running, dancing, food, and live entertainment. June 1, 2008 www.sandiegomarathon.com

MARATHON MANIAH

This course is almost completely flat with a meandering river and trees. The half-marathon course goes past the ocean, sunsets will have no impact to the race times. June 14, 2008 www.marinemarathon.ca

MIAMI'S BIGGEST TEN MARATHON

It's not only a night, but the 20-kilometer is worth the wait as the sun begins to rise in the morning. Check intervals and distances through Archangel in the Guidebook. June 21, 2008 www.miamimarathon.com

MONTEREY MARATHON

Out, but in the House. The 5K in part time may sound rough, but at least you won't confront the first few hours. Getting a massage, it's not the easiest course, but more than two-thirds of runners are in it to have fun. December 14, 2008 www.montereymarathon.org



EXTREME FUN WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT

These non-stop, non-stop attractions will get your adrenaline pumping as hell, but any sweat.

1. **Rock climbing:** The ultimate rock climbing experience, this indoor climbing wall will be the highlight of your vacation in Colorado. After a break, head to the gym for a 45-minute and 100-calorie interval training session.

2. **Spinning:** Spin classes are a must in Denver, and the city's best is at the 1000 Club.

3. **Water aerobics:** If you're not into spinning, water aerobics is a great alternative.

4. **Rock climbing:** Sandstone's second-highest peak, the 1000 Club, is the best place to climb in Denver. The 1000 Club is a 100-foot-tall sandstone cliff, and the city's best spot to rappel down a 100-foot cliff.

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SO PRIDE MATTERS: Here, toddlers tend to sleep in the most ridiculous positions.

Why Daddy sleeps in a princess bed

A new book called 'Toddlers Gone Wild' documents strange nightly migrations

BY REBECCA EGKLER

This morning I awoke in my three-year-old daughter's princess bed. My daughter was not beside me; she was sleeping soundly in the marital bed—alone. She looked pretty darn comfortable when I went in to check on her after wriggling myself from her Disney sheets. Of course she looked comfortable. How could she not have been? She had an entire king-size bed to herself, complete with the two-thousand-count sheets and the good pillows that made you feel like you're sleeping on a cloud.

The Princess was in the spare bed room, snoring away like a hawk. The spare bedroom has one of those pullout couches that turns

into a bed when you pump it up with air. Sleeping in a bed-in-a-box is probably more comfortable than sleeping on our pump-up bed in the spare bedroom. So I understood why the Princess was all, "F--- it! My bed! F--- it! I didn't sleep at all! F--- it! I can't believe I have to go to work like this."

My daughter's princess bed is a tad more comfortable than the pullout, pump-up bed—until from her sheets, which are about as comfortable as sleeping on sandpaper. Someone should really come up with 500-thread-count Disney and Explorer Disney sheets, because parents end up sleeping in children's beds so often, if not more often, than their kids do.

I know that when I went to bed last night, I was with the Princess in the marital bed, and our daughter was in her bed. I am sure you can see how I end up where I do each morning. For the last two years, our three-year-old daughter moved into her big Girl's Bed, I woke up

feeling like I spent the previous night getting drunk after mixing too many red wine and vodka shots. Remember when you used to mix yourself, alternating red wine and vodka tonics all night? "How many did I get home?" Well now, the question is, "How did I end up in the room?" I'd like to add, however, that even if the previous night I legally was too young to be with you, I'd, right? There's what needs done.

I think the Princess and I were sleeping soundly when our daughter came into our room, crying and wanting to sleep with me. It was somewhere after 2 a.m. The Princess has one main rule, which is that our toddler can't sleep in our bed. Ever. Which means, usually, that I end up going back to bed in our daughter's room. But, for night, thinking the Princess was sound asleep—and mostly because I was too tired to get out of bed to take my toddler daughter into her bedroom—it just pulled her up beside me. I tried to remain as close to the edge of the bed as possible with her, without falling off, so the Princess wouldn't know she was there.

Which is ridiculous. Of course he knew she was in bed with us. She was screaming, "I want to sleep in your bed!" while I was firmly saying, "Shhh! Be quiet! Daddy won't let you sleep here! So you have to be quiet." But even if she hadn't been crying and

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HOME

moaning, "I want to sleep in your bed," the French would have woken me. Children sleep in the most ridiculous positions. Our daughter likes to sleep horizontally and sometimes diagonally. I remember, at one point, literally pulling her with me to the other end of the bed (so our feet were next to the French) because she was breathing too hard. This also seemed like a position that would prevent our puppy's arms from invading her face.

The next thing I remember is the French pulling my feet away from her face—I think, rather, I knew I had kicked her—and her mom pulling out of the room, huffing, "Thanks for looking me in the face."

I remember thinking, "Wonder if she's just going to the bathroom." And then I remembered wondering if he was even going to return to our bed, but to our room. Ever.

Three hours later, I knew the answer. The French hadn't returned to our bed. I knew this only because my daughter woke me up at 4 a.m. by lying on top of me. The rest of the bed was empty.

That was the point at which I realized that I couldn't sleep in the same bed with her either—with her suffocating me—or I went to sleep in her room. Which is how our family of three ended up in three different bedrooms.

Thus, apparently, a common occurrence. One of my friends and her husband always end up at their two sons' beds, while their two sons end up in their queen-size. As she puts it, "We're certain points in the middle of the night, it doesn't matter what mattress you end up. You just want to sleep. You're lucky if you get a mattress."

It's true. French's child-sleeping arrangements can remind you of a three-ring-viajeo. There's so much happening under one roof, and all in such a short period of time!

I'd estimate that, since my daughter turned two, I've spent a total of two hours each night in the same bed as my French. There have been weeks, even months, when I don't sleep in the same bed with her at all. I do this because I know my daughter will just start screaming in the middle of the night for me to sleep with her. Instead of waking up at some ungodly hour to go to her room, I figure it's just easier to start off sleeping in her

bed. This way I won't have to drag my body out of bed if I'm trying not to wake up a wall on my way to get her.

Last week, after a fitful night, I woke up in the hallway on a pile of towels. Somewhere, in the middle of the night, I had convinced myself that this was the only place I'd finally get some sleep. The French was in our daughter's room, my daughter (of course) was in the marital bed, and there was no way on earth I was sleeping in that pump-up thing she'd supposedly shed. There's nothing harder than walking up on the floor in the hall way... alone... in a pile of dirty laundry. That's me.

And a god's name, or so I hear, when you have more than one child. "It was like sleeping does last night," my friend assured me, about the sleeping arrangements with her husband, heraddling, Ava, and Wynt, her seven-month-old son. She sounded like she had been run over by a truck.

The night started out hopefully enough, she explained. She and her husband went to bed at 11 p.m., but at 2 a.m., Wynt started to cry. Her husband went in to calm him down. But Wynt wouldn't stop crying, so he went to help his husband. Then Ava started crying out for "Daddy." Daddy went to Ava, while Mommy went back to her own bed room with Wynt. Then Mommy went to bed. So Mommy just lay back into his arms, calmed him, and then went to her room, while Daddy went back to their marital bed. Then Wynt started crying again. "I ended up on the couch with the baby. And that's all that happened between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m.," my friend said, before adding, "Can you tell me what day of the week it is?"

There's definitely something you never want to ask your partner after a night of sleeping arrangements, especially if he ends up on the pump-up bed after being kicked in the face by your screaming, wild fool, with towels to sleep you could probably make up a tire. That question is, "So how did you sleep last night?" Because the response is always, "I'm fine. My back's fine." H

Goldilocks Gone Wild By Rebecca Eddle Copy © 2003 by Rebecca Eddle. Published by arrangement with Key Porter books.

HALF OF WHAT'S MINE IS YOURS—EXACTLY HALF
At a blade-minded mind, like a pencil, Brooke Zivkov has compiled with a Berlin court order to share all his property with his wife, with whom he had lived for 48 years. Zivkov purchased a grinder and proceeded to cut all his hair to look like a hermit and a scowling machine. "I still haven't decided how to shave the cow," he says. "She should just eat what she wants—the meat with the horns or the parts with the tail?"

HISTORY



ONE OF THE FIRST: Bill Williams (right), with Czech communists who will be tried in 1939

UNDER THE INFLUENCE?

**Fearing Communists,
the RCMP kept tabs on
Spanish civil war vets**

Seventy years ago, a civil war raged in Spain between the country's left-leaning government, supported by the Soviet Union, and a military uprising led by General Francisco Franco and backed by fascist Italy and Nazi Germany. Almost 3,000 Canadians defied Canadian law and volunteered to fight on the side of the Spanish government. More than 400 died. In this excerpt from *Rebelions: Canadians in the Spanish Civil War*, author and Maclean's reporter Michael Pringle reveals how the survivors of the Maclean's *Frontline* families were treated by the Canadian government and the RCMP for decades after the war.

The RCMP did not stop spying on Canadian veterans of Spain, or interfering in their lives, just because the government had decided not to prosecute them. That took, however, decades, after with large amounts of classified, and far from RCMP surveillance reports and dark warnings about what the veterans and their supporters might be up to—usually without any serious evidence to support the dire predictions. The Rogers begin in the 1930s and span at least four decades.

On Jan. 31, 1939, RCMP commissioner Stuart Taylor, Wood wrote to the Canadian Legion of British Empire Service League to warn that Spanish war veterans might try to undermine the organization. Four days later, J.R. Bowler, general secretary of the Canadian Legion, wrote Wood to say that he had received Wood's "ascertaining." Bowler assured

ROGERS

©

2003

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Wood that service in Spain did not constitute a reason for membership in the Legion and added, "We shall certainly be on the watch for any effort to penetrate the Canadian Legion, and should anything of that sort come to our notice, will act at once."

In 1946, a special section of the RCMP's Toronto branch filed a report on a gathering of ex-war veterans, concluding a majority of those listed, "this gathering could be called more of a social than a war league, etc., in evidence." In the report's preamble, doubt was cast on the report's veracity, noting that a handful of veterans, giving details of their own security threat, the report cited an unnamed veteran who said that meetings such as these constituted the nucleus of an underground movement should there be war with Spain.

Several reports from 1947 clarified the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion was functioning again as an armed force to fight in Spain and that the Communist Party of Canada had asked for money and soldiers. "It is reported that the aims of the new battalion will be to organize and send recruits to fight in Spain and to collect money for medical supplies for Spain," reads a RCMP memorandum dated Dec. 19, 1947. It appears that the only evidence for this claim consisted of a few lines written by Walter Scott in the Canadian edition of *Voluntary for Liberty*, a newsletter for veterans of the Spanish Civil War. "Remember Canada!" Scott wrote, "we bitterly pledged to continue the struggle whenever means within our power until fascism is destroyed throughout the world and Spain regains her freedom." The "new battalion" was the "Veterans of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion," eventually a small club that also helped support the Franco regime in Spain.

Veterans were also pressured to become police informers, apparently with the co-operation of the Canadian government. "Members of the Mac-Pap who are in the Party have been approached by our contacts with our agents," reads a Jan. 4, 1948, dispatch from the RCMP's special branch in Vancouver. "Hendry, a former Mac-Pap named [name has been censored] who had applied some time ago for a part in the Civil Service, was approached through [name has been censored] and while willing to discuss the issue, could supply no information of value."

In 1950, Canadian veterans of the Spanish Civil War applied for formal incorporation as a non-profit organization called MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion—Veterans of the International Brigades. The stated aims of the organization, outlined in the application, included aiding "in the acquisition of arms money to the Spanish Republic," helping fed veterans who had fallen on hard times and seeking official recognition as veterans.

This application caused some alarm in Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau's Liberal government, which causticized the RCMP's Assistant Commissioner Louis Raymond Parent, director of security and intelligence, with K. R. Raine, the undersecretary of state for external affairs, cautioning the history of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion, as understood by the RCMP. Parent noted that an

the civil war, and there is little compelling evidence to suggest that an association of Communists would function as a Communist front. Nevertheless, on Dec. 18, 1970, the Department of External Affairs concluded that the association, if formed, could hurt Canadian relations with Spain and therefore the application should not be accepted.

The RCMP kept files on the aging Canadian veterans sent at least 1941, when most of those still living were in their 70s, in their veterans' organizations. What the RCMP discovered initially be classified as a national threat. "Of 1,200 Canadians spending time in Spain from 1936 on with the Mac-Pap Battalion, only 150 are presently alive and they are scattered around Canada," reads a 1980 memorandum. "The majority of these men are not communists and/or party, their political motivations are now at keeping with the NDP philosophy."

That report was written more than 30 years after the Spanish Civil War ended. There may well be more relevant files, yet to be declassified. For all the veterans' faults, and for all the tragedy complicities in the war they chose to fight, the Canadians who fought in Spain had the moral clarity to face the rising intransigence of fascism when most of the European powers chose to look away. They joined a war of which their government and the RCMP did not approve. It was they who were never quite forgiven. ■



THICK FILES ARE FULL OF DARK WARNINGS ABOUT WHAT THE VETERANS MIGHT BE UP TO



VOLUNTEERS of the 15th International Brigade assaulting Hitler's positions (above), veterans returning home to Canada

From Augustin Gutiérrez in the Spanish Civil War, published by UBC Press in association with the Canadian War Museum. Copyright UBC Press 2008. All rights reserved. *Renegades* will be launched at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa on April 19 at 7 p.m. Other readings will be held across Canada in late April and early May. See www.ubcpress.ca/renegades for details.



ANCIENT PERU: HUNTER-GATHERER BLING

Archaeologists are puzzling over the discovery of a gold necklace, over 4,000 years old, found on the shores of Peru's Lake Titicaca. Calling it a "complete shock," an Argentine University researcher says that people living at that time were still primitive hunter-gatherers. A puzzling assumption among historians is that societies must advance to engage in metal societies before they are affluent enough to support artificers like jewellery making.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF UBC PRESS; UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES

ADDING A BEAUTIFUL STORY TO THE ALL-TOO-OFTEN UGLY PAGES OF HISTORY.

Congratulations to Lawrence Hill, winner of the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize for his masterpiece *The Book of Negroes*. The "Book of Negroes" was a historic British military ledger allowing 3000 Black Loyalists passage on ships sailing from Manhattan to Nova Scotia. In this ledger, Lawrence Hill's remarkable protagonist, Aniyah Diallo, is given the chance to register her name. Mr. Hill is joined by this year's finalists: Robert Hough for *The Culprits*, Shaera Lambert for *Resistance*, Nancy Huston for *Fruitless*, M. G. Vassanji for *The Assassin's Song*. Bravo to all.



 **ROGERS**

'WHAT SHE'S DEMONSTRATING ISN'T BRAVER BUT A SHOCKING LACK OF SELF-CONTROL'—COLUMNIST MONICA GRENFELL THINKS PLUS-SIZE BEAUTY COHOST CHLOE MARSHALL MAKES A POOR ROLE MODEL

MARIAN CAREY
WHAT HER MAJESTY
WANTS, SHE GETS

LES STROUD
LOST IN THE BUSHES
THINK OF SURVIVOR-MAN

JOHN PAULSON
MAKING MONEY OFF
SUPREME MORTGAGES

JUAN HERMOSILLO
A MASTER SPINNER
COMES TO CANADA

CHLOE MARSHALL
THE 'AMBASSADOR
OF CURVES'

V.S. NAIPAL
THE TRUTH, NO
MATTER HOW UGLY

DR. HEATHER ROSS
AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN
HIGH ENOUGH

MARYAM SANATI
COMING TO THE AID
OF A GRAND OLD LADY

The long and rock 'n' roll has been debrorbed by a plus-sized diva from Long Island who sleepwalks 10 handstands around her bed at night to preserve her vocal cords. Marian Carey surpassed Elton John's all-time list of sellers with the most No. 1 singles to top the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 list, with the release of her new song, "Break My Body." The song became the fifth best-selling repeat-week No. 1, which means her tour-second place overall behind the Beatles' 2011 chart topper—and apparently success has made her even prouder. When she recently signed on to appear in a new Julianne Moore movie, *Rosanne*, Carey learned she'd have to fly to the shoot because classes because the company lacked money for that class. Carey agreed. Then booked out the entire monorail ride alone. "I guess I am a diva in many ways," says Carey. "I can be dif- ficult and a little bit rigid about what I want." We would agree, your majesty.

For survivalist progs to be a success, you need Les Stroud, a.k.a. Survivorman, the host of a wide-massaged TV show of the same name, who succeeded with saving the life of a marooned McDonald's snowboarder. Chris Farley, 24, emerged after five days on the brain of sub-zero temperatures. He had used Stroud's tips—not known to be hypothermic, and made right shivers out of spruce branches—while slowly making his way through a snowdrift to a TV tower he'd spied on the Lake St. Martin First Nation reserve, about three hours north of Whistler. It's not the first time that the Hamilton, Ont.-based Stroud has been credited with helping people via his survival show. A Utah couple made headlines out of material from their make-shifts after they got stuck. Stroud's own brushes with wildness may bechuck include being chased by a jaguar at a drive-in movie, of course, as well as eating a scorpion larva for sustenance. Though it all, the conservationist, sailing, capturing Burmese pythons and cool downmomes—two career goals for survival.

It was widely acknowledged before it happened that the U.S. housing bubble would have to burst. Mortgages given out like candy to people who couldn't afford them, the so-called sub-prime market, was bound to give out. But as the system moved as seemingly as John Paulson, who heads the New York City hedge fund Paulson & Co. (Ironically, the firm has attracted a highly-polyed talent in the person of former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, whom some blame for encouraging the subprime mess.) Paulson was to see the market was crumbling by his first round-trip flight to London. This week, the financial trade journal *Trader* honored Paulson's firm as top trader of 2007, having earned \$6.1 billion by short selling bond-collateral obligations. Paulson's secret to success is taking home a personal paycheque of \$1 billion. He is a former investment banker at Bear Stearns, the bank that recently submitted to a life-saving purchase from J.P. Morgan Chase after it let the wrong boy. Perhaps Morgan hadn't come along, Paulson could have bought his employer with pretty cash.

It was while working in an Italian restaurant in Los Angeles that Juan Hermosillo, 28, first encountered the acoustic art of spinning pizza dough. Working in the kitchen to earn money for vet school, he was mesmerized by the piñata-like results of the beauty of a girl with reside proportions on a minimalist beauty contest. A European size 14, Marshall and she won the "curves" title. But a bad date shortly followed, with a former pageant judge, Monica Grenfell, writing in the *Daily Mail*: "Who does she think she's kidding? When she's demonstrating, it's not her beauty but a shocking lack of control." Marshall fired back: "Grenfell's remarks are the kind that cause girls to never go to a pageant again." Marshall says the diet and exercises he mentions are just for fun. On both sides of the Atlantic, the number of obese girls in the world is increasing to the fact that girls are too much not too little. "It makes me mad when people like Chloe are allowed to glorify it," she says. Grenfell wrote in *Mail Online* that she would be queer?

She's a big girl. Five feet ten and weighing 176 lbs. When Chloe Marshall, a 17-year-old tradie beauty queen, reached the finals in the Miss England contest last week, many viewers celebrated the beauty of a girl with reside proportions on a minimalist beauty contest. A European size 14, Marshall and she won the "curves" title. But a bad date shortly followed, with a former pageant judge, Monica Grenfell, writing in the *Daily Mail*: "Who does she think she's kidding? When she's demonstrating, it's not her beauty but a shocking lack of control." Marshall fired back: "Grenfell's remarks are the kind that cause girls to never go to a pageant again." Marshall says the diet and exercises he mentions are just for fun. At the same time, Naipal's spin-off is garnering a lot of attention. Still, on both sides of the Atlantic, the number of obese girls in the world is increasing to the fact that girls are too much not too little. "It makes me mad when people like Chloe are allowed to glorify it," she says. Grenfell wrote in *Mail Online* that she would be queer?

It is the grand old man of filing letters, a Booker Prize winner (or two) in a Five Starlet as well as a 2004 Nobel laureate, but now a new biography in U.S. Niagara, the Trinidadian-born literary superstar is especially fresh-faced: the comic laureate has had others. French's *The World Is What It Is* (2007) was heralded as a household folly, an epicurus and epicene epic. For more than 20 years Naipal carried on with an Anglo-Anglophile, Margaret Murray, who enjoyed being his alibi and vicar, while he was avoided by mothering and dairying his Naipal as psychologically abusive of his beautiful loves, telling her that she was stupid, he never even bothered to open her letter. At the same time, Naipal's spin-off is garnering a lot of attention. Still, on both sides of the Atlantic, the number of obese girls in the world is increasing to the fact that girls are too much not too little. "It makes me mad when people like Chloe are allowed to glorify it," she says. Grenfell wrote in *Mail Online* that she would be queer?

When you think of mountain climbers, you think of healthy, robust individuals, like Dr. Heather Ross, who heads the Thorax plant Unit at Toronto Hospital, but now you can't even see them. In 2004 she came within 200 centimeters of the summit of the Vihren Massif, *Aeropatika*'s highest peak, clearing with Dale Suppan, 95, a firefighter who once had a heart transplant. Now Ross has her eye set on Mount Peak in Nepal, taking along Suppan as well as David White, who has a transplanted kidney. Ross hopes to demonstrate that not only can top climbers participate in the new life, but they can become super-fit. There is also ground-breaking research to be done. Working with Dr. Michael White of the Montreal Heart Institute, Ross and the team will examine how transplant recipients' hearts respond to high altitude and what role hypoxia (low blood oxygen levels) plays. For transplant recipients, there isn't an mountain high enough.



THE BACK PAGES

tv

Born comes the Fox...
8:30

film

T'Wolves Be Created!
8:34

stage

Playing some
cheeky piano
8:38

fame

Thomson's P.R.
goes to trial
8:37

steyn

What's the real
maniac?
8:38

feschuk

Attack of the
muds
8:38

SNAPPED

They're women who
shop at Wal-Mart
and watch 'Oprah'—
until one day...

BY ANNE KINGSTON

If Madame Bovary were meant
for the 21st century, its central character would likely end up on *Snapped*, the popular
true-crime program about
women who kill. These aren't typical female
serial killers like Aileen Wuornos, who dumped the Oscar-winning movie *Munster*. Rather,
many of the murderers profiled on the
half-hour docudrama are contemporary
Emma Bovarys—ordinary women living in
small towns, locked in dull marriages, con-
suming mindless affairs, racking up debt
they're desperate to hide from their mates.
Only they'd never think to end their own lives
with arsenic as Emma did. No, the
Lynne Turner of Atlanta,
she-sharshar-
bend

What makes the program compulsively
watchable, uncannily, is its surface banality.
Subjects span the income spectrum but
they share a woman-next-door normality—
and they "keep" their job. They shop at Wal-
Mart, consume *Dr. Oz* and watch Oprah.
"The program tries to pick subjects
the average viewer can relate to," explains
series



WINGING IT
They kill to get rid
of husbands who interfere with their
activities—or just tick them off mightily

producer Debra Winger

a few years back, a boyfriend
had doctored antifreeze, they set out
as the logical way out.

Snapped's very existence is testament to
the fact women who kill remain cultural
mousetraps. It's difficult to imagine a prime
time program profiling men who shave lobes,
pose and otherwise exonerate their wives
and elicit outrage. But female murderers
have long been regarded as more interesting
fodder. Either they're viewed as aberrant,
like Wazana, or framed as cut-up
ones warranting "you go girl" adorations
like the two central characters in *Thelma*
and *Louise*.

Snapped has struck a new nerve among
its huge female following. Viewership and
sales have grown steadily since it went to air

At first glance, *Snapped* is an unlikely
chick-TV guilty pleasure. Shallow+shocking
budget, the show quotient is zero. A female
voiceover tells each woman's story in a bal-
anced, formal manner. Home photos, drama-
tic re-enactments, grisly crime scene docu-
mentaries and courtroom footage provide
the minute interviews with the subjects' fam-
ily, friends, police, lawyers and journalists
and occasionally the subject herself—all out
the narrative.

These real-life stories are far stranger—and
more compelling—than fictional *Law and
Order* or *Csi* fare. There's Jim Wheeler of
Kosciusko, Miss., whose marriage came under
strain after his daughter was born with Down
syndrome. She commenced an affair with
the organ-grinder church and convinced him
to shoot his husband in a staged home bar-
gery (the husband survived). Wheeler inside

a plea deal, served one year in jail and remar-
ried. J. Adrienne Jackson, a pregnant young
law student, stabbed her boyfriend to death
during a temper tantrum. Shanna Miller, a
Mary Kay cosmetics saleswoman, shoplifted
and one-day-return adored, tried to make the
mother of her police-officer husband look
like a murderer. Susan Polk, a grumpy who met
her terrorist husband when he treated her as a teenager, stabbed him to death in the
heat of a bitter divorce that threatened to
strip her of custody of her children. And then
there's part-time Waitress, who planned
to drown her partner husband after
longing changes and
splitting.

the money into a private account.
Then's decided voyeuristic pleasure: pre-
ying behind these suburban doors, into a
languid landscape more chilling than anything
David Lynch could dream up. This is
a mix first world influenced by made-for-TV
crime shows, apparently minus the recogni-
tion that on TV, in an idle, household idyll,
old men get away with it. There's nearly zero
sex, only the dexterous of a foolish decision
and lives ruined in an instant. Indeed, the
program serves as rest-in-peace TV for its spon-
sored hooked women who probably had no
idea what kind of bottoms of their own. No
matter how unhappily married or married,
she is, the female sinner can find solace in
the fact her life has yet to reach that point of
desperation at which she'd plot to dismem-
ber the father of her children.

In its core studies, *Snapped* offers more
than entertainment. Between the conver-

AN UNLIKELY CHICK TV HIT, IT'S FULL OF 'CSI'-ISH TIPS FOR HUSBANDICIDE

ing her at the house, she started with her caged husband. Don't end up with ranges that failed to fulfill the promise of their "fairy-tale" wedding. Others don't want the hassle of dealing with divorce court or costly lawyers. Financial motives are common. A few women see their husbands blocking the insurance payout that would allow them to start a new life, safe and avoid being found to have manipulated funds, sense to hide the fact they've married someone else the number of women who decide to kill their husbands rather than confess to a shopping addiction has prompted the show's motto: "Shop 'til you drop."

Now are there visitors always the brutal furniture-to-victims of women-in-peril inside

Never, for one, are parking lots from house that's what put Maura McGinn, a name from New Jersey, away for life after police matched the curtains used to mask her husband William's decomposed body with those under her kitchen sink. Snapping a break to cover a shooting is also a bad idea. That's how Amy Boiler tried to make the killing of her husband, Bob, whom she shot to death before an IRS meeting that would reveal she'd stolen almost \$2 million inowed back taxes from his business. As the detective who survived the tragic crime recalled: "It was a made-for-TV crime scene, only it didn't fit the crime."

Snapped has motives. Advocates for female victims of domestic violence contend the show underplays the fact that more women who murder do so in self-defense. Certainly that justification pops up regularly during

crossings and sentences to serve 150 days to 10 and 60 days in a mental health facility. With credit for time served, she went directly from her sentencing to the mental health facility, and walked out a free woman this August.

For Snapped's producers, there's no shame of future subjects. Dabbs says they're interested with tips from viewers, many of them small town cases that haven't received national attention. The international husbandicide market also looks like last month, when Karen Lee Cooper of Bountiful, Utah, was accused guilty of谋杀 her husband, explains that she stabilized her busy but tired with a kitchen knife during a drunken fight after he wouldn't let her pay a finance company CD as her lawyer put it, she suffered "brain damage." But Snapped's popularity continues, however, that means will no longer work as the female murderer's preferred excuse. ■

For TV movies. Many are decent guys whose greatest sin is fecklessness—like the feisty, oddly irresponsible pastor Matthew Daniels, who, while sleeping by his resolute wife, Shanon, who was used of foisting the bills. The show has been enriched with offering in a set change in the depiction of female violence—away from women as victims to a more broad reflection with female character that's apparent not only on other "empowering." Oxygen hoses but also issues women create shows like CSI. It's a shift that dovetails with a real-life increase in violent crime committed by women—particularly against homicide. (In Canada the number of men killed by their wives is up, from 21 in 2001 to 21 in 2006.)

But most of the Snapped refugees know exactly what they're doing, even if their reasoning isn't necessarily sound: they fall to rehash themselves of roles who are interfering with their greater ambitions—or who merely have ticked them off (including Cynthia George, for instance, a client named up in the 2006 Ma Giaour contour, enraged with her lover to put a hit on a former lover when he wouldn't stop calling).

Snapped follows the show's appeal basis. It's focus is psychology rather than finance. Stellar's checkbook these women trials, even when there's no evidence any abuse took place. Some of Snapped's female fatalities even attempt to establish a trial of retribution to partly the crime. Lisa Whedon, for instance, used to set up a battery of abuse, calling 911 to my her husband was threatening her, though he hadn't. The program also reveals a double standard toward women in sentencing. Clearly some courts subscribe to the view that a woman would never file of free will. That explains why Mary Winkler, who gunned down her junior husband after a bad chessgame, was reported of first-degree murder on April 21, convicted of



THE CHARACTERS immortalized by Bob Newhart and Mary Tyler Moore already have oldies; now Fred Gwynne's Eddie gets his turn

What's Milwaukee without the Fonz?

This city is one of many glorifying their fictional TV characters. Some residents don't like it.

BY JASME J. WEINMANN • The most famous person who ever lived in Milwaukee is one who didn't root. That's the impression you'll get starting Aug. 24, when a life-size statue of Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli from Happy Days is unveiled near the Milwaukee River, complete with a dedication ceremony attended by Henry Winkler himself! And the most unusual thing about this TV-obsession idea: it's unlikely that it isn't unusual at all: when the Milwaukee Comptroller and Veterans Bureau rated the city's cool for the state, they were inspired by other cities that have put up statues of their favorite fictional residents. Milwaukee has a Mary Tyler Moore Show statue commemorating the day she died here but the arie Rob Reiner's is actually from Chang'e the city created a statue for her to look like Hartley, the Chicago-based character he played on The Bob Newhart Show. Whether they like it or not, the next draft of a city have to deal with the legacy of people who never lived there.

Shows take place in New York, Los Angeles, London or another of the big media centers. Which means that the residents of any other city can get a welcome vacation when a show chooses to invite its characters to a place that's not normally seen on TV. Milwaukee journalist Jessica Perri, who moved to the city from Los Angeles, told Milwaukee that Happy Days and Lawrence and Shirley may have helped Milwaukee by giving the city a positive identity. "It created an image of Milwaukee where there was sort of an image to begin with. So in a sense I think it helped a little bit." Some people, particularly young people, find a certain pride in hearing their city mentioned on TV when the arie Michael Jackson's "You are the

lead" show. The Sam J. Jones of Zech and Cody, the one young viewer wrote that he liked the show because "it takes place in Boston, and when the cameras show the Tropic hotel, you see my aunc's work building." And Hugh Wilson, creator of the show WGN-TV's On the River (the show's city almost at random), says he's proud that "Germans welcomed us with open arms when the two were there, and after all those years The Fonz heard a single citizen have a negative comment."

Sometimes the residents want to resent being too strongly associated with a bunch of California bad stereotypes. Mike Brenner, the director of Milwaukee's art gallery called Hotelarts, has announced his intention to shut down the gallery in protest of the Foresthill edition of his town. "I cannot see running a contemporary art gallery," he wrote on his website, "in a town whose 'leadership' is so eager to assert its limited vision in a garish, mindless, or flaunting its burgeoning art community." Perri, who used to work in Green County, Calif., when the residents were annoyed over their portrayal on the show, she'd often say something similar to Milwaukee people: "apparently the airtimes" they get from these like Happy Days, but at the same time they "want outsiders to know they're more than what the show suggests."

But there's a reason why a city can come

ACCORDING TO TV

"Hilary" (9 p.m., 11:30 p.m. today and 1 a.m. Saturday) is the new spin-off of *Rocky Horror Show* if it transferred this movie to a different planet. Rockin' Now if I Remember This movie doesn't Rockin' Now if I Remember This movie in the black guy—Jay Leno.

"Over the top" (9 p.m., 11:30 p.m. today and 1 a.m. Saturday) is the new spin-off of *Rocky Horror Show* if it transferred this movie to a different planet. Rockin' Now if I Remember This movie in the black guy—Jay Leno.

HILLARY AND BARACK

"Hilary" (9 p.m., 11:30 p.m. today and 1 a.m. Saturday) is the new spin-off of *Rocky Horror Show* if it transferred this movie to a different planet. Rockin' Now if I Remember This movie in the black guy—Jay Leno.



THE YOUNG@HEART CHORUS, featured in a new documentary, has been performing together—give or take a few members—for 25 years

A last waltz on walkers and oxygen

'I Want to be Sedated' turns into a different kind of punk anthem when the singer is 93

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSTONE • When you film a documentary, you hope for the unexpected. Up to a point. When the makers of *Glenn Shorier sings the Rolling Stones* (Academy Award nominee in 2007), cameras captured the falling of a black teenager breaking a gain in front of the stage, a noise that turned into a resilience that marked the death of the hip pie down. Now *Young@Heart* is about a rock star even older than the Stones are today—performers in their 70s, 80s and 90s, whose repertoire includes Jimi Hendrix, The Clash, David Bowie, Bruce Springsteen, Coldplay and the Talking Heads. But what may look like a sweet, funny film about pristine seniors took on an unanticipated graininess when two of its star-studded before-the-show made gains. And the film delved into a poignant drama of mortality, loss, performance and triumph—everything, in other words, that Hollywood spends millions trying to simulate.

Deathbeds bring new to the *Young@Heart* Chorus, whose members have the brink turnover of a nursing home. Based in North Hampton, N.H., this music theater troupe has been singing, acting and touring in various incarnations for a quarter-century. In that time, some 70 members have died. Bob Cilman, the group's 55-year-old founder and director, who has watched them all come and go, is singular about it. "Sometimes people are performing to the last measure," he says. "It's hard because you're not prepared—that at least they didn't have to go through that period of dying in hospitals. They just were there. There's something pretty about that. What I can always console myself with is that I was with these people at an amazing time at the end of their life when they were doing

something as amazing as anything they did in the whole of their life."

Now opening commercially after galvanizing the festival circuit for the past year, *Young@Heart* is the kind of crowd-pleaser that has audience laughing, crying and even dancing in the aisles. It finds its most indelible audience on college campuses. Seniors, oddly enough, are not a good demographic. Cilman has learned, because they don't know the songs and don't get the irony. "If you have an audience of all old people," he says, "it can be completely deadly."

The movie covers seven weeks in the life of the chorus, as they struggle to learn new songs for a housewarming performance specially mounted for the film. The material, energetically selected by Cilman, takes on new meaning coming from the mouths of seniors. When 91-year-old Edna Hallihan says She Shoulda Stay or Should I (by the Clash, a song about a relationship) punctuates an older anthem about life and death. A few numbers are hymnally appropriate, such as Bowie's "Golden Rule" and the like "Give" (Stevie Wonder). The Wall's British director, Steven Walker, also created some music videos for the film, including one for the Ramones' "I Wanna Be Sedated," which they shot in an old graveyard.

"I Wanna Be Sedated" is my first favorite of the version," says Cilman, "because it does what you're performing to the last measure." He says, "It's hard because you're not prepared—that at least they didn't have to go through that period of dying in hospitals. They just were there. There's something pretty about that. What I can always console myself with is that I was with these people at an amazing time at the end of their life when they were doing

something as amazing as anything they did in the whole of their life." But Walker issues the running-beat video of Sledhead isn't just a joke. "It's a punk rock song by an 8-year-old with nil grasp of anger and protest about what it's like to be in those sort of places."

Cilman initially discouraged Walker's bid to make a movie. Having built the chorus from scratch, he views them as serious artists, not a novelty act. And he's protective of them, especially when confronted with a Ringo Starr director/mentor who swoops in for a few weeks and tends to parameterize the old folks with too many over questions. Before leaving, Young@Heart's imperious, Cilman was a fixture in Northampton's art colony, doing everything from playing in a band called the Self-Highbrow Brothers to performing a gay Clydesdale in a feminist manner. He also worked as a projectionist, which wasn't paying the bills, so he took a job running a mobile service for seniors, and soon he was doing sign language. Since then, his chorus has evolved into a professional troupe that has taken critically acclaimed tours of Europe.

Some members of the chorus perform with walkers, as one singer's broad control involves an oxygen tank. But one man had died for two years. Right after the first death, the chorus was booked to play a concert in a prison yard, where they sang Bob Dylan's "Forever Young." Handicapped members script. ■

WE'RE TALKING...

ANDY RODDICK



A star on the tennis court, Roddick has been less successful in business, but he admits, "I'm a bit of a risk taker for a while," he says. "I'm not really afraid of that." Now, he's in a particularly curious phase of a company named "Andy Roddick's." (Yes, he's a huge, creative team for that name. I'm surprised you haven't heard of it. It's huge.) "It launched in 2006. It's about to have its 10th birthday. "We've sold nine books," Roddick says. "It's a 10th birthday and another one today."



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ONYX-TRIA takes a cue from the Valley: the rule requires him to act, sing—and play piano like a demon. He's pushing it right to the edge.

Bigger, bouncier great balls of fire

Ted Dykstra reignites the Jerry Lee Lewis magic that changed his life two decades ago

WT. BRAD L. WATSON In 1997, when *Brat* star David Lee Roth sat in his car and played loudly based on the life of rock 'n' roll dynasty-leader Lee, Lee—wearing one of the show's writers' decadal-themed costumes—wasn't laughing; he was the *Mormon* priest. So he beat Roth up so a strip boy, "Tori was gone," recalls David Young, who co-wrote the show with Paul Jolley. "He needed release, a bit of grit in his bathing suit, no spoke." Whether letting on, Young slipped a smirking smile to play Dylan's with-lip-blance face as the actor was forced to talk, which he did for 10 songs. "The singer was amateur, and walked his way across the Dylan's romantic destroy thy elsewhere—he would fall in love in first sight with a woman who just got pasty in Toronto, singerfaggy chick McLainie Doucet. Now, 20 years later, they're married with two kids. And Dylan's is basking up the ring in a remnant of fire, with Doucet as his sacrosanct music director. That's a good ending, but it's not the ending I imagined between an Toronto's Blanca Aguirre. That's it's got a bit of Shirley about it."

Co-produced by Toronto's Canadian Stage Company and Baltimore's Capitol Theatre, where it starts another run, May 12-26—*For once gospel and rock is an American art form that fares no worse in relevance than when it was written.* The drama revolves around a fight between two brothers, characters inspired by the hellraising Lewis and his television co-star Jenny Swaggart. Dylan's title requires lots of sex, sing- and play-plus like a drama. *Manly he ain't,* though, pounding the keys into a blur of braided triplets for God Golly Itta, his foot slams onto the keyboard, and he even plays with his butt, swishing on the right notes with panache that raises a cheer from the audience every time. "This is probably the best band playing 'I've ever done,"' said

ely has played to some two million people on four continents. Dylan himself started 850 performances, and directed produc-

After two decades, Dylstra finally feels qualified to play the middle aged version of his character in *Fire*. And he's a better man. "I've seen Lewis play, and Dylstra is just as courageous," *Lionard* concurs. "He's not just doing the steady Jerry Lee stuff. He's pushing it right to the edge of *chaos*." As an engineer, Dylstra influences U.S. policies. Five new songs credit him as a source. But Dylstra feels he's taught so many Canaries for *Antennae* audiences. "The fact the hookers don't remember it is a waste," *Concord*, he says. "It's the most wonderful play with music that I think I've made. I'm never going to return to the audience and express myself a private emotion, none of the other characters on *live*."

Dykens is now writing a real Broadway-style musical for Marvin Productions called *Entourage*. Set in the 1930s, it's based on a Longfellow poem about a woman who was separated from her fiancé on their wedding day during the explosion of *Avalanche* from Nova Scotia. In the poem—which Dykens will bring to his attraction—the woman never finds her man. Dykens says his fiancée will have a happy ending. But he doesn't plan to marry her. Instead he hopes to add one more round to his repertoire—collecting royalties without lifting a finger. *Entourage* ■

PERFORMANCE OF THE WOODS SOUSA IRONING

While a sledgey breveted past, 72 Australian scuba-divers attempted their ironing boards, pressing clothes three needles under water. The event, staged in Melbourne, set a record for the number of divers pressing clothes under water. The "extreme ironing" event was intended to beat a standing record of 70 people ironing under water. The record was set in 2000 in London. The 72 divers set a new record.



EM QM&E TAPE, Taylor Thompson asks the Pita investigation if her mother was giving her ex-boyfriend money during her custody dispute.

Tinker, Taylor, Hollywood spy

The trial of Anthony Pellicano, PI to the stars, takes a curiously Canadian detour

BY MICHAEL BOHLER AND BRIANNA ADELBERG — In her day, when he was the thug king, he gave up his Hellboy madcap ways for legal trouble. And though Hellboy was once the last man a human boy could dream of being, the human "boy" he now "brother" has on the day is a Los Angeles congressman, the grown eye wear a fedora, and a balding white guy over 50. But his old abrasives are still around, and he's got a catch.

jurisdictions related to transportation and "objection." Pellicano is accused of engaging in illegal spying games to give his clients "a tactical advantage in litigation," says an enforcement filing by U.S. District Court. The suit has dragged on as it results in a number of criminal and civil lawsuits, including corruption charges. Cook, who helped Pellicano to investigate a wiretap queen attempting to shut him down, and who tutored him Friday with Rich's departure, may be less senior covering the trial but less likely. They faced a cameras, and an ex-wife Gardiner, defense's lead attorney, is a former prosecutor.

The counterculture Taylor Thompson, daughter of the late Canadian radio icon Ron Thompson, and one of the world's wealthiest women, was in the middle of a costly dispute with her estranged boyfriend in 2002, when she alleged Pelicano to prison jailor whether her brother, Dale Thompson, now the 30th Baron Thompson of Fleet and chairman of Thompson Rivers, might be providing money to Michael Kaljaga, the robbery/murder suspect

The request, worthy of a scene from a Raymond Chandler novel, was contained in an audio recording of an April 11, 2002, phone conversation between Taylor and Pellicone, played in court by prosecutors. On it, Taylor asks him to probe the backgrounds of both Rajaratnam and her former nanny, Pamela Miller. The recording was made at Miller's home in the Bronx.



MCFARLAND AND ROY

Las Vegas performers' former security chief, a 61, when their Silversen tiger, Salvo, expired. They demanded it be cremated. The problem is, the tiger wouldn't fit in the furnace. They've set up a collection while still piping his ashes into his tombstone. —Mark Hirsch

AHS: The urge to write like a nutty mother leaves the phrase missing like a pernicious substance related to links to Justice of Petty Drak

Amis descends into Steyn-hugging

It's faintly surreal to find oneself cited as the reason for someone's fall from media grace



MARK STEYN

In *The Village* (over the other wall, the playwright David Mamet recently cast himself as a liberal apotropaic and revealed that he's begun reading conservative types like Milton Friedman and Paul Johnson if he's won during what's left for a year or two down the line, here's how Newsworld's Jonathan Tapwater began his review this week of another literary leftie who wandered off the reservation:

"Toward the end of *The Second Plane*, *Martin Amis's* new book on the roots and impact of 9/11, the British novelist describes a fellow writer as 'an oldie, his shapely and elusive *arts*—arts—lost in life like a mother. A talented mother, but a nutcase.' Averaging a hating Mark Steyn, a conservative who's later polemistic, he could just as well be describing another angry, Muslim-hating freedom-haus (Y. Tolka, jsc, Sennet, just like ours, judging from the new book, a nutcase.)

Possibly. What did Martin Amis ever do to deserve being compared to a nut? As Mark Tepperman concludes, the once Amis is "past fit for the legion of Amis fans who still love him for novels like *The Rachel Papers* and his masterpiece, *London Fields*." But the masterpiece were in the last falling good old days before he transformed himself into a fellow who, as a recent profile in *British* *Independent* put it, "thinks to promote the writings of a Canadian former disc-jockey called Mark Steyn." I'm not sure which half of that biographical précis is intended to be more令人困惑的. *Against the Day* (which is, *literally*, when the Canadian author is, also, *mentally* you can take the dis-

gility out of *Castalia* but you can't take the Canada out of the disc jockey) in fact, it was *The Independent* which "chose" to promote the writings of the gaudily colonial planter-sponsor (having obtained an interview with the author himself) declared beyond the literary pale the day's "close" to spend most of his life now with the romane novela banishing the non-existent else today it's every country intervening in everyone's "but enough about what I think of Steyn. What do you think?"

The profile concluded that Amis had descended into a kind of schizophrenia, torn between "the left wing—nuclear-disarming, environmentalist" and the "Steyn-hugger." An otherwise returned literary personage a mere year after *The Independent* appeared saying that, if you'd held a competition a decade ago to invent the phrase least likely ever to be ascribed to Martin Amis, "Steyn-hugger" would be pretty hard to beat. It's fairly surreal to add that Amis cited as the principal reason for someone else's fall from media grace, and it's not terribly far to dear old Amis. His approval on me very briefly, Steyn, he says, "is a great sign of the times."

In Canada, depending on how Murdoch's fawning "human rights" showtrial shakes out, it's legally unsayable. But Britain has not (yet) resisted the weighted ensemble of a land paved by "human rights" communists, and for the moment Martin Amis refers only to what's merely socially "unpalatable." He seems to have concluded that across the last 30 or 40 years the criteria of enlightened Western democracies have allowed their public discourse to shift to

the point where they almost literally lack language in which to examine the moral challenges to our society.

Amis wrote the central entry in *The Second Plane*—"The Age of Horrorism"—a couple of years back. It dwells on the "unconscious anxiety of Islamic culture" and reveals that "the impulse towards mutual inquiry is by now very weak among the rank and file of Muslim male." What is all but unsayable. But, ever since, he's found himself writing pieces in which either he appears to be like "Arabs Why I Am Not A Racist" and "No, Look, Honestly, I'm Not A Racist."

He has a point. Islam is everything but a race. It's a religion—which is to say if you're an atheist like Amis and his friend Christopher Hitchens) an ideology. It's also a political platform and an expandable project, as these terms are traditionally understood. It has elements of every colour on every spectrum. So, if Islam is a race, then, even though it's a race—from the Elie Lodge to the Harrow Mountain Fan Club to the British Airways frequent flyer program. However, to denounce as "racist" any attempt to claim Islam is to accept that being Muslim, like being black, is a given, fixed, unchangeable. That's what its adherents believe.

For most of young British Muslims think that anyone interposing themselves between them and God should be killed. But their less-reason for ten Muslims to sign on to that "Racist," of course, no longer has anything very much to do with skin colour. It merely means you have named a sign that discloses the state of the serpuously non-paternalistic progressive establishment. I wonder if one reason we are so bizarrely fixated on "cultural change" and the like and fauna is because it's one of the few subjects we can talk about without having any daunting view greeted by cries of "Racist!" For the moment



KRCMEN: The late Ayatollah once pronounced that "There is no jihad in Islam"

So much in "unpalatable," isn't it? I mentioned a week or two back that 57 per cent of Pakistanis believe that their first cousins (forty years ago, the nation of a thousand-grade school class) would be a majority of the pupils are the children of first cousins would have been unmarriageable. Now it's "unsayable." Many non-Pakistanis (including me) are a little queasy about the marital preferences of their neighbours but no longer have quite on what basis to object to it. "The ethics of taboos," writes Amis, "leads the demographic question to become an revelation that is rendered undiscussable." Dissenters from mainstreaming principles, the NDP's Olivia Chow said, "My fear is that we'll choose immigrants who they feel are 'good for Canada'—and we can't have that, can we? A progressive nation must demonstrate its multiculturalism by taking a nation of immigrants in such numbers [12.5%, 41], 91 per cent of our immigrants turn out to be minority minorities, who are we to be judgmental?" And so we bring along, with cause, rearmage, and, if anything, more.

Mr. Amis' objection to me is that Steyn "writes like a mother." But in the above passage it's the urge to write like a nutty mother that leaves the phrase missing from the rest of the sentence. The nutty mother is the one who's son makes a living by being a bottle of Baby Duck. He's struggling to find an aspect of the nation against which he can strike a wistful pose, and it's nutty because we know that's not where engenders him about the situation. He wants to write something more primal, more visceral, more *folk*. But, when he does, the media call him racist.

When he annoyed my book, he felt the jokes were inappropriate. And he had a point, at least to the extent that just about the first, wry, up-front in the book's second paragraph, was at his expense. I quoted a passage of his from the eighth, outlining his plan for coping with the impending Thatcher-Katanga nuclear armageddon.

"Suppose I survive," he wrote, "Suppose my arse is stuck pooping down my face, suppose I am untouched by the forces of ordinary mortality that all mortal, mortal and glass has already humanly appear all else. I shall be obliged (and I'd be lost if I felt this doing) to notice that long and low, through the jettison, the remains of the thousand under us, like wrecks, the warped stones, the great grey dead. That—God willing, if I still have the strength, and, of course, if they are still alive—I must find my wife and children and I must tell them."

And then I added: "But the big One never

MACLEAN'S

BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY RYAN REEDMAN

Fiction

1 GOOD BEHAVIOR RADLEY	6,046
2 KILL ALL THE JUDGES by William Dearwell	91
3 A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS by Khaled Hosseini	4,046
4 REMEMBER HER by Sophie Kinsella	120
5 LUSH LIFE by Richard Price	8,123
6 A PARTITION'S DAUGHTER by Lois-Loi Leemkunah	171
7 INJUSTICE OF THE SUM by Timothy Gullane	10,171
8 UNCOMMON READERS by Alan Bennett	214
9 THE APPEAL by John Grisham	6,068
10 REPOSE OF GREEN GAULLES by Bruce Wilson	2,880

Non-fiction

1 I DON'T BELIEVE IN ATHLETES by Ellen Hodges	8,133
2 THE SEXUAL PARADOX by Susan Green	6,160
3 THE GREEN ROAD by Peter Mayle	91
4 WHO OWNS CANADA NOW by Diane Pham	9,110
5 THE ALCHEMY OF LOSS by Alanis Morissette	79
6 PARADISELOVING by Oliver Tozer	8,103
7 IN THE DREAM OF NURSE GHOSTS by Gabor Maté	4,165
8 WHO'S YOUR CITY? by Richard Flanagan	19,113
9 IN YOUR BLOOD: READING A CHRISTIAN by Wayne Leissner	171
10 AN AFRICA DAY by Jon Schwartz	9,181

LAST WEEK (REBATES ON LIST)

He! And instead of telling his wife Martin Amis had to make do with divorcing her?"

Heavens! And? Yes, indeed. And I feel a bit bad about it. But a couple of pages on and I was soon cheerfully floating and jerking at the bad-hair and dissonant envoices in search the name. Martin. Amis' fat fella had a smiley video and the like were so laughing manner, but each of us gets through "the age of horrorism" as he can. If I don't laugh, I'll weep—and feel I'd already had—survived, for, as the late Ayatollah Khomeini pronounced, "There are no jokers in Islam." (How Martin Amis recovered a bit of his old drabness, on the right side of the border, is another story.)

And then I added: "But the big One never

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As revenge fantasies go, this one has personality



SCOTT
FRESHWATER

There good news and I have had news. The bad news is that earth is going to be swallowed up and destroyed and we're all going to be horribly, horribly killed. The good news is that it might happen before Michael Bay can finish making another stupid Transformers movie. Fingers crossed?

You read that right, according to a forecast filed in Hawaii, the earth—our home planet and all Gorg's steady girlfriend—will be destroyed and before the end of the year. In fact will come in the middle of a space storm, or of gigantic impoundments in rivers, or even of a wretched God's way of being asked to alter the outcome of professional sporting events and home pregnancy tests. No, the planet we know and love will be destroyed by—by a sun! And not just by any sun—but by a *nerd*. And not just by any nerd—but by a *physicist*, the polyester-clad son of the nerd popculture.

The forecast, filed by former nuclear safety officer, tensor-tweaker, catch-a-proton-for-a-proton on the use of the new 60-billion particle accelerator that's running completely under the border between Russia and Switzerland. The sun comes in when the Large Hadron Collider is switched on later this year, the cosmic arc discharge of energy will create a tiny black hole with the potential to consume the entire earth. This is a complex scientific phenomenon known in the parlance of particle physicists as "bad."

As we learned from the original Star Trek series, black holes are a region of space with gravitational fields so powerful that they make starship captains almost comically horny but it might not be a black hole that lies in. The *Times*, filed by a former nuclear safety officer and others, argues the Collider also has the potential to create something called a "stranger," which would transform our planet into what the *New York Times* described as "a vacuum cleaner, dead last" so much that

100 rail in diameter. (Even under such a scenario, it is estimated that 68 per cent of the world would continue to drive their SUVs to the corner store.)

It's important to note that the allegations in the court documents are not this—it's allegations. People file lawsuits every day, and most of them are groundless and without merit, especially the ones filed after I took off my shirt while mowing the lawn (berry, yeah, bear—I didn't have the connection between my "men books" and your "recurring night噩梦 about [fill in G?]"

For their part, scientists insist there's nothing to worry about—the odds of earth being destroyed by the accelerator are equal to a random person winning a national lottery.



The planet we love may be destroyed by nerds. And not by any nerds—by physicists!

behind the favour. They make the case that even if the black hole doesn't materialize, even if the stranger is avoided, there remains a chance the accelerator could set off a chain reaction that would cause all processes to assume to destroy.

Now personally, I'd make the case that physics bid it coming—after all, they do help to turn the pharmaceuticals on which the Gorgs' Death march is recorded, and that's not something you're just going to get away with. That said, I am relatively sanguine that certain things can't exist without protons, such as the universe, or, more importantly, me. The question is whether the eradication of the Gorgs' Death march is going across all space and time, or whether the protons' annihilation of all existence is, in fact, going to have to my jet.

ON THE WEB: For Scott Freshwater take on the news of the day, visit his blog www.macleans.ca/thesituation

ZORAN VUJOVIC

1988-2008

Everybody liked him, but he had a secret life. In an online forum, he wrote, 'I would die for Kosovo.'

Zoran Vujovic was born on Jan. 22, 1988, in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia in what was then Yugoslavia. His mother, Lubiana, a housewife, and his father, Milos, an engineer, were both Serbs from Prizren, the capital of the autonomous province of Kosovo. But because of the tensions between Serbs and ethnic Albanians, they did not trust the Albanian doctors in their city, and travelled to Skopje, a one-hour drive away, for Zoran's birth. When they returned with the healthy baby, the Albanians were still on the streets. The happens of fall was disastrous. Zoran was the first guard, and could do whatever he wanted. He grew up with his grandfather, playing honky on his back and pulling his hair. Zoran was baptized on his first birthday in an Orthodox Christian church, St. Nicholas, in Prizren. He was very young when he learned how to read, making all his teachers laugh in his daycare school. Zoran loved reading, playing, and, above all, his neighborhood with his extended family. He also loved his younger brother, Lazar, who was born in 1990.

The family had a good life in Prizren. They didn't have much, but they always managed to take holidays in the Balkans or at the seaside. In 1994, Zoran began attending elementary school, Dosoziy Obradovic, in Prizren, and for another five years, life was peaceful and carefree. Later, as a teenager, he would tell his girlfriend Ksenija stories about his grandfather and a good friend, whom she didn't know. He would stay up late because he enjoyed throwing snowballs in winter, playing a children's game that had only one rule: "Rule Serbia against Little Albania."

In 1999, the family's idyllic times had ended. Ethnic differences in Kosovo had exploded into warfare between the Kosovo Liberation Army and Serbian forces. And wedged in the middle, many of them concentrated against ethnic Albanians, NATO entered the fray after the massacre of Albanians in the town of Racak, launching air strikes and targets in Serbia to force Slobodan Milosevic, leader of what was left of Yugoslavia, to negotiate. But the end of that campaign in June 1999, and capitulation by Milosevic, left Kosovo's minority Serbs in the mercy of Albanians. In August 1999, Zoran's great-grandmother, Ljubica, an old lady in her 80s, was found strangled in her bathtub. People decided in whom came to the door of her house, saying they were doctors—and killed her. "Albanians did it," says Ksenija, looking down at her hands. "Zoran's grandfather, his son, died soon after." Of course.

Zoran, his brother and three mother had already fled to Novi Sad, the capital of the northern district of Serbia called Vojvodina,

as many of thousands of Serbs from Kosovo became refugees. In Novi Sad, Zoran attended a small Hungarian-Serbian school. Friend Slobodan Milosevic was popular, but above all, he was a shahid for the big girl soccer club in Serbia, Partizan. It became his secret: almost all Serbian soccer clubs are connected to ultra-nationalist leaders, and their fans became loyalists to political causes.

But in his day-to-day existence, Zoran continued to spend a lot of time with his family, especially his mother, Lubica, singing and talking to her for hours. It was while he attended jeans Vukovac High School that he fell in love. "He first saw me at a high school football game, and sent a message, but I didn't reply," says Ksenija. "After that I saw him again in the city center. Then I saw him at a massage. For two years, we've been together." Ksenija, a skin, brown-haired pharmacy student, lives with her family in a three-room apartment in Novi Sad. In her tiny room, with its pink walls, Zoran spent a lot of time, "because at his house he shared his room with his brother Lazar," Ksenija says. They enjoyed walking near the Danube and eating in the local-Cafe pizzeria. The only thing he never wanted to do was take up football because the stadium was no place for her, she said.

On Feb. 25, Zoran declared independence from Serbia. From the U.S. and parts of Europe, support came quickly for the Kosovar, averaging many posts. Zoran wrote on Facebook: "Everyone by my mother I would die for Kosovo." Days later, on the morning of Feb. 28, he



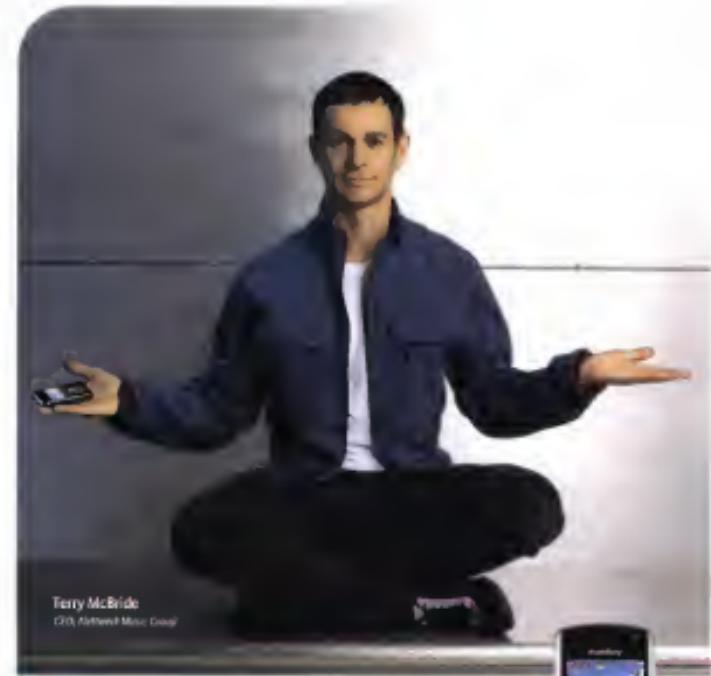
got ready to go to a protest against Kosovar independence in Belgrade. Ksenija stayed home. She wasn't worried. "Zoran always found a way out of trouble," she says. Zoran said goodbye to his father at 3:45 p.m., and went to the mosque his son with his friends Nekola and Miljan, also fans of the Partizan soccer club. The trip to Belgrade, 50 km from Novi Sad, was free, courtesy of the Serbian government. Parking for protesters in Belgrade was also free. Restaurants were free. It was like a national holiday.

A US\$45 p.m. fee levied on protesters sounded from the radio

stage, but it especially for the event. A group of young people, drunk and sporting religious and political quotes, advanced on the American Embassy on Kneza Milosa Street. Zoran was among them. The protesters destroyed the building's doors and the bars on the windows, then set the embassy on fire. Zoran was overcome by the smoke. Ksenija sent a last message to him that night at 6:30, but his phone had already melted. The next day, his father identified his body by a gold chain and a metal belt he'd made.

Zoran was 20.

BY NORINA KOWYNSKI IN BELGRADE



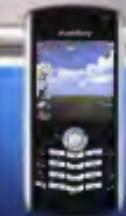
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